



CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL

L A M E S A C A L I F O R N I A

Christ Lutheran Preschool

Accredited by:
National Lutheran School Accreditation

Preschool Parent Handbook

Christ Lutheran Church & School

Developing dynamic disciples for Christ!

www.lutheranschool.org

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Christ Lutheran Preschool

Parent Handbook

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Christ Lutheran Preschool

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Welcome

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Preschool. Our staff strives to work closely with you by providing a nurturing, stimulating environment that extends and enriches your child's early home experiences. We welcome your ideas and creativity in helping us maintain a high quality program for your child and encourage your active participation in our program. This handbook has been developed to answer the questions you may have regarding our program and policies. Please keep it in a convenient place for easy reference. You will be asked to sign a form stating that you have received it and read it, and agree to follow the policies as stated.

Mission

Developing dynamic disciples for Christ!

Vision

Created by God, sent by the Holy Spirit, passionately transforming lives to be like Jesus!

Purpose

Christ Lutheran Preschool is an integral part of the total ministry of Christ Lutheran Church in La Mesa. The purpose of Christ Lutheran Preschool is to provide a Christian learning environment where young children will be introduced to Jesus as their personal friend and Savior. Children will learn daily about Jesus' unconditional love and grace for them. It is our hope that through this process they will develop a sense of security and trust in their world and learn that they can become Jesus' youngest disciples as they share His stories and songs with their families and friends.

At Christ Lutheran Preschool we have a sincere love for children and a commitment to working with families to assist them in developing their child's full potential. The staff of Christ Lutheran Preschool attempts to meet the needs of families with young children in the church and in the community. As we build a relationship between home and school we strive to help children develop a positive self-image and build a firm foundation for their future education experiences.

Philosophy

We Believe...

that God desires every child to know and love Him. In Matthew 19:14, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Our goal at Christ Lutheran Preschool is to build a strong foundation in God's word, and to create a desire within a child's heart to joyfully serve

the Lord.

We Believe...

that families are the first and best teachers for each child's learning experiences. It is within the circle of a child's family that children can learn about the world and can learn the love of their Father in heaven.

We Believe...

that a child's early and first school experiences help form the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Our faculty and staff believe it both an honor and privilege to be in partnership with parents as their children embark upon their first journeys into formal education.

We Believe...

that each child is a unique and special gift of God, born with a natural desire to learn about God's world.

We Believe...

that each child needs to develop a sense of security and trust in his or her world. Knowing and experiencing the unconditional love of Jesus is the most effective means of developing a sense of trust.

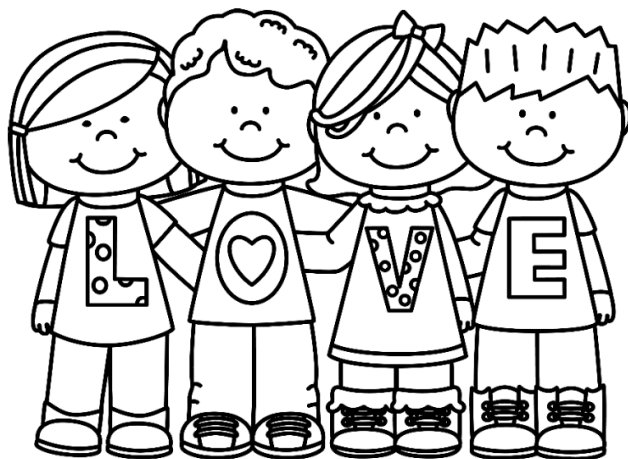
We Believe...

that young children learn best through play. They acquire knowledge of God's world through repeated hands-on experience.

We Believe...

that young children develop a sense of respect for self and others through natural social interactions with children and adults. They learn positive ways of interacting with others through the examples of our staff and through hearing the message of God's love for all people.

Christ Lutheran Preschool is honored with the trust that families give us when they invite us to take part in the life of their children and family.



Curriculum Goals

Through activities in our curriculum, children will:

Grow Spiritually

- Respond to God's love
- Feel secure in God's love and care
- See themselves as God's children
- Realize their need for God's love
- Know Jesus as their personal friend and Savior

Grow Emotionally

- Develop a sense of security and trust
- Develop a positive self-concept
- Be free to risk failure and be comfortable with mistakes
- Show independence and self-responsibility
- Channel emotions into appropriate and acceptable outlets

Grow Socially

- Learn to play, work and communicate with peers and adults
- Adjust to group situations
- Accept others even though they may be different from self
- Develop a sense of community
- Accept change in environment and routines

Grow Physically

- Develop gross and fine motor coordination
- Develop eye-hand and eye-foot coordination
- Become aware of his or her own body

Grow Intellectually

- Continue to develop language and understanding abilities
- Develop pre-reading skills, such as:
 - Love and interest in books
 - Visual discrimination
 - Auditory discrimination
 - Understanding of symbols
- Develop an ever-increasing attention span
- Complete tasks begun
- Initiate his or her own activities

Grow Creatively

- Express ideas in his or her own unique way
- Be free to create artistically using a variety of media
- Develop his or her God-given talents and abilities



Christ Lutheran Schoolwide Learning Expectations

By the power of the gospel and in partnership with parents, Christ Lutheran Preschool and School will produce students who:

- Give faithful witness to their faith in Jesus Christ.
- Use effective problem solving skills to accomplish individual and group goals.
- Communicate their ideas and feelings in various media.
- Design and create products using traditional and technical media.
- Identify, analyze, transfer, integrate and apply information.
- Demonstrate positive citizenship and contribute time and talents in service to others.

Enrollment Policies and Procedures

Non-Discriminatory Statement

Christ Lutheran Preschool admits children of any race and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to children at the center. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies and other center administered programs.

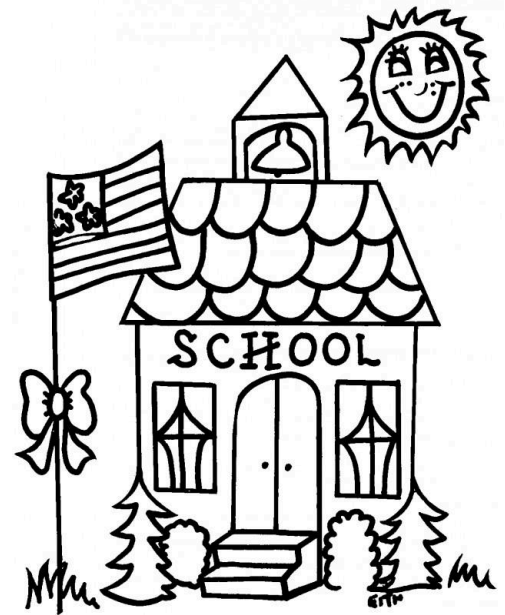
Requirements for Enrollment

We accept children 2 years of age through 5 years of age, or until they enter Kindergarten. Children must be independent of a bottle and/or pacifier during the day, and able to self-feed before enrollment. All children must be ambulatory.

Admission Process

Upon receipt of the completed application and registration fee, an appointment will be made to evaluate your child's readiness for the preschool program. This preparedness visit may not need to happen for children entering Pre-K and families that have already been enrolled in the preschool. The director will schedule a one hour time in the morning for your child to visit in the class that they will be with. The director and teacher will assess the readiness of your child to enter our preschool program. You must bring your child's current Immunization Record with you for this visit.

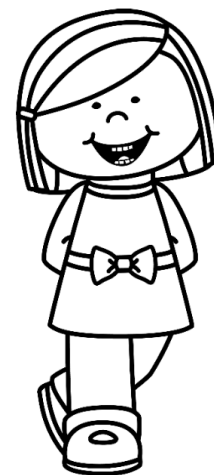
After the preparedness visit, and upon acceptance to the program, a personal Parent Orientation visit will be conducted with each parent and seeking admission into the program. The purpose for this time is to acquaint the family with the program and fees of Christ Lutheran Preschool, to answer any parent questions, and to ultimately determine whether the program is the best environment to meet the individual needs of the child.



Families seeking transfer from a previous preschool will meet with the director and an observation at the current school may be arranged to determine if our program can more appropriately enhance the child's growth and development.

Admission Requirements – Required Forms for Enrollment

- Contingent upon enrollment into the program, parents *must* supply the following:
- Completed Application Form
- Completed Emergency Information Form
- Registration fee and the first month's tuition
- Signed agreement to adhere to the policies as outlined in this handbook
- Completed Release Form
- Child's Preadmission Health History – Parents' Report
- Physician's Report
- Record of Immunizations
- Signed acknowledgement of Notification of Parent's Rights
- Signed acknowledgement of Personal Rights
- Proof of the child's age (Should be stated on Immunization Record or Physician's Report)
- Additional Forms may be required.



Medical Records

Prior to entrance of the child into the program, parents are to provide a written medical assessment of their child as well as a physician's report with TB clearance and record of immunizations.

The medical assessment will include the following:

- A record of any infectious or contagious diseases which would prevent care of the child
- Identification of any prescribed medications being taken by the child
- Ambulatory status
- Notation of all allergies
- Documentation of pre-existing medical conditions

The physician's report is to be filled out by a doctor within six months prior to admission, and returned to the center before the child begins attending the program. The Licensing Form 701 - **PHYSICIAN'S REPORT—CHILD CARE CENTERS** must be used.

It is imperative that the center is aware of all allergies, previous and/or ongoing medical conditions in order to provide appropriate, individualized care for the child.

Exemption Status/Requirements

If for any reason a child is exempt from immunization. It is the responsibility of the parents to file for exemption status with CAIR through California Department of Public Health.
cair.cdph.ca.gov/exemptions/home

Registration/Tuition Payments/Late Fees

Registration fee and the first month's tuition are due to Christ Lutheran Preschool upon enrollment of the

child. The registration fee is non-refundable. The regular school year tuition fees for part time and full time schedules are based on a yearly cost divided into 10 equal monthly payments, August through May. Tuition payments are due on the 20th of each month. Payments received after the last day of the month will be assessed a late fee of \$25 or 5%, whichever greater. A fee of \$25 will be assessed for returned checks. Non payment of tuition fees will result in termination of enrollment. The parent will be responsible for all fees incurred. Please refer to the current Rates and Program Form and the current Preschool Calendar for dates of regular school year operation. The financial contract is found on the back side of the Application Form.

Re-registration for returning families takes place in late February or early March each year. The non-refundable registration fee will be due at that time, to secure your child's continuing enrollment. After the re-enrollment period ends, we will immediately open registration to the community.

Our center closes at 5:30 pm daily to ensure the well-being of our students and staff. In the event of late pick up, a fee structure is in place to cover additional staffing costs. A \$40.00 late fee will apply if pick up occurs after 5:30 pm, followed by a \$1.00 per minute charge thereafter. Subsequent late pick ups will incur a \$60.00 late fee initially, escalating to \$80.00 for subsequent instances. It's our sincere hope to avoid disruptions to our center's operations and to uphold the quality of care for all students. Your cooperation in adhering to pick up times is greatly appreciated, as repeated tardiness may impact the student's enrollment at Christ Lutheran Preschool.

Delinquent accounts cause a financial strain on Christ Lutheran Church Ministries. It is expected that families will act in good faith in addressing their financial responsibility. Past due collections will be handled by the Business Office of Christ Lutheran Church.

The summer program, which begins mid-June, is a separate weekly charge. Summer enrollment forms are distributed in the beginning of April each year. You may sign up for individual weeks of attendance, which is dependent on space availability. The summer tuition will be billed in weekly charges during the summer. No changes to summer camp desired schedules can be made after May 31 of that year.

There is no vacation credit given during the regular school year. There is no tuition credit given for days the preschool is scheduled closed, and no credit for days that your child does not attend due to illness or personal plans.

Schedule and Schedule Changes

Children may attend **only the hours as indicated on the enrollment form.**

If you desire a change in your child's schedule, a "Request for Schedule Change" Google form must be completed 2 weeks prior to the change, and **the director must approve changes.** Please note that you may need to be placed on a waiting list. Any change in attendance is based on availability of openings and staff/child ratios. Any change that is requested without a 2 week notice will be assessed a \$25 service fee. Please note that days missed due to illness or personal choice may not be made up.

Notification of Withdrawal/Termination

Christ Lutheran Preschool has a two-week mutual notice period to terminate enrollment. Please give the director two weeks **written** notice prior to canceling enrollment. The parent is responsible for payment of this two week period.

The school may terminate a child's enrollment if the child:

- Is not ready to benefit from the program
- Is having emotional or behavioral problems which may harm other children or interfere with others being able to participate in the program
- Requires the constant attention of one staff member, jeopardizing our supervision ratios that are

- required by law
- A mutual agreement has been come to between the director/preschool and family

If a child has difficulty adhering to program requirements, a conference will be arranged with the child's teacher, the director and the child's parent(s). The staff will work together with the parents to develop and sign a contract plan to help the child be successful. Counseling may be recommended. In some cases, counseling or outside assessment will be required to continue enrollment. In two weeks, a second conference will be scheduled to evaluate the child's enrollment. Either parent or school may give termination notice.

General Policies

Hours of Operation – Attendance Options

Christ Lutheran Preschool is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Early Arrival Option

Full time and extended day children may arrive any time between 7:00 am and 9:00 am. Children may bring a *simple, self-help* breakfast to eat at school, if they arrive before 8:00 am. Please make sure that your child has eaten something for breakfast each day before they arrive at preschool.



Morning Sessions

Morning sessions are conducted for Sea Turtles , Manta Rays, and Sharks(Pre-K), respectively. Sessions begin at 9:00am and run to 12:00pm. Placement in each class is dependent on the year your child will enter kindergarten, and their "potty trained" status. It is important that all morning children arrive by 9:00am. It causes difficulty for children and teachers when children arrive late and interrupt our group time activities.

Snacks

All children will bring their own snack to school each day. We ask that all snacks include two food groups and be highly nutritious. If your child is a full-time student, they will need a morning and an afternoon snack. Part-time children will only need their morning snack. Snacks need to be simple to serve and easily eaten by your child. If a snack requires a fork or spoon, please include this. If your child is not yet able to use utensils, please do not send items that require their use. **Do not send glass containers**. Please label snacks clearly with your child's name and place them in the snack bin in your child's classroom.

Lunch

All children staying for lunch must bring their own nutritious lunch. Lunches need to have 4 to 5 items that are easily eaten by your child. Please include utensils. We discourage foods that need warming, as it takes away from supervision. Please do not send lunch items that require preparation, such as pizza Lunchables, fruit that needs to be cut up or peeled, and other items that need to be assembled. Again, this takes away from our supervision during lunch time. **Do not send glass containers for your child's lunch**. If your child is not yet able to use utensils, please do not send items that require their use. Items that come in "pouch type" container work very well for our youngest children. Lunch hour is 12:00pm to 1:00pm. Part-time children staying for Lunch Bunch must be picked up by 1:00p.m. Children may stay for lunch on an occasional basis. Prior arrangements must be made with and approved by the director.

Nap/Rest Time

Nap/rest time is 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Please, no pick-ups between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm as it can be very

disruptive to the other children napping. Children need their rest for their healthy development. A quiet nap time for all children enrolled is mandated by the State of California Community Care Licensing.

Afternoon Session

Children are together in a mixed-age group from 3:00 pm until closing.

Summer or holiday hours are subject to change. A calendar will be distributed in August and at the start of summer.

Days of Operation

The center is open year round excluding all holidays, one week at Thanksgiving, two weeks at Christmas, and a break between the school years and the summer program beginning. Consult the center calendar for current information.

Health and Safety

We want to protect your child's health as well as the health of other children and staff members. State law requires that a child does not come to school if he/she has a ***cold, fever, upset stomach, contagious disease*** or any ***abnormal health symptoms***. For a partial listing of Communicable Diseases, see Appendix C.

A staff member on duty will conduct a health check each day the child enters the program. Children with obvious colds or illnesses will **not** be admitted. Please do not put staff in the position of refusing your child. Please do not medicate your child to "make it through the day."

For the protection of all the children, a child should be kept at home if he/she shows any of the following symptoms:

- **Diarrhea or vomiting:** Children with intestinal disturbance accompanied by diarrhea or vomiting must stay home until free from symptoms for 24 hours.
- **Fever:** Children with a fever of over 99 degrees (oral) must stay home for 24 hours after symptoms subside.
- Any undiagnosed rash.
- Sore/discharging eyes or ears or profuse nasal discharge.

If the child develops any of these symptoms while at the center, he/she will be isolated from the other children. A parent will be called and asked to take the child home as soon as possible. The absence of a fever should not be the deciding factor that you child should not go to school. If your child is coughing strongly, or has been coughing for 1 – 3 days, your child needs rest and fluids. Children that are, in your opinion, questionable in the morning should not be brought to preschool. If your child is coughing throughout the night, they have not gotten a restful night's sleep and are not ready for a full busy day at school. Also, medicating children with OTC medications to "get them through the day," and not providing time for adequate rest, prolongs the illness and exposes the other children and staff to unnecessary illness. Please email the office or classroom email, or call 462-5211x106 each day of absence.

It is the responsibility of each parent to be sure that there are *alternative arrangements* available in the event that the parent cannot pick up an ill child.

Colds and flu spread quickly among children and staff. The most contagious period for the common cold is the first 3-5 days. If, after that length of time, children are no longer sneezing, coughing or suffering from nasal discharge, they may return to the center. Children ***must be free*** from fever, vomiting, coughing, runny nose or diarrhea for a ***full 24 hours*** before returning. Please provide a doctor's clearance after a contagious disease.

If, after the first five days of illness, the child still has a runny nose and cough, a doctor's note stating that the child is no longer contagious is needed for re-admittance.

Allergy symptoms are an exception. Allergies must be noted on the child's medical assessment. **PLEASE INFORM STAFF OF ANY ALLERGIES YOUR CHILD MAY HAVE.** A statement from a physician may be required if the child has recurring allergy symptoms.

We must also have a **signed Doctor's Directive** for any child requiring the use of an Epipen or Benadryl for allergic reactions.

Medication Policy

If it is deemed necessary by a physician that medication be administered during the time the child is in the program, a physician must provide a written request with explicit directions. The child's name, the physician's name and dosage information must be clearly printed on the label. We discourage over-the-counter medication, but it will be administered in cases of necessity, with written directions and parent signature. We will provide a form for you to fill out.

Please leave the medication in the office with the director or teacher. **Do not** leave medicine in your child's cubby, backpack or lunch box. "Medicine" includes, but is not limited to: *throat lozenges, cough drops, vitamins, and Tylenol, as well as prescription drugs – it includes anything used for medicinal purposes.* Please give the medicine to a staff member so that it can be stored safely in the preschool kitchen.

Medical Emergencies

In case of an emergency such as sudden illness or serious injury, that is non-life-threatening, every attempt will be made to immediately notify parents or those individuals noted on your Emergency Information Form. It is understood that enrollment at Christ Lutheran Preschool confers upon its personnel the obligation to select emergency care providers in the absence of our ability to reach parents or those individuals noted on the child's Emergency Information Form, within one hour of illness/injury.

Notify the center immediately of any change of address or telephone number.

If the situation is a life-threatening emergency, the director or qualified teacher will call 911 immediately. The parents will assume fees for emergency transportation and care.

Permission for Medical Treatment

You will be asked to sign the following medical release upon enrollment:

- Administrative procedures vary among medical personnel and medical facilities with regard to provision of medical care for a child in the absence of the parent. The exact procedure required by the physician or hospital to be used in emergencies should be verified in advance.
- In case of an accident or emergency, I authorize a staff member of Christ Lutheran Preschool to take my child to the physician noted on the emergency care form or to the nearest emergency hospital for such emergency treatment and measures that are deemed necessary for the safety and protection of the child; as well as emergency medical transportation as deemed necessary, at my expense.

Security Issues/Sign-In, Sign-Out Procedure

For the child's safety it is required that an adult brings the child into the building. State regulations require that children be signed in and out each day. The sign-in/out book is kept on the counter in the foyer. The child is to be signed in by the adult accompanying the child. The adult is to sign the sheet for the appropriate day, with their **full signature** (first and last name) and indicate the time the child is accepted for the day. The adult picking up the child is required to sign the sheet with full signature and

pick up time.

State law requires that the program release the child to only those adults indicated on the Emergency Information Form. The parent may add or delete names on the form at any time. The program cannot release a child into any other person's custody without parental written permission. **Children will not be released to minors.**

When a person other than a parent is picking up a child, a picture ID is required for release.

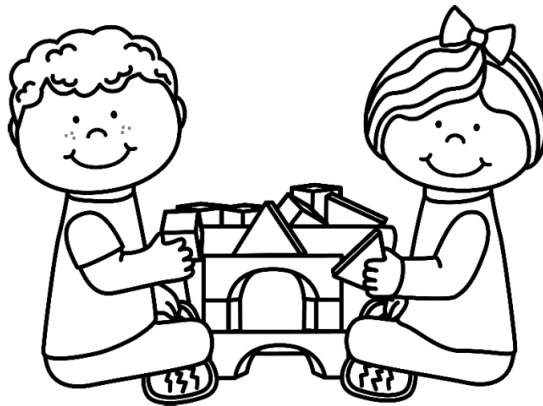
Christ Lutheran Preschool abides by all legally served court orders. A notarized court order must be presented and on file regarding parental custody matters.

Staff is required by law to report suspected child abuse to the proper authorities.

Natural Disaster Procedure

In the event of a "natural disaster" we will ordinarily follow the direction of the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District as to the opening or closing of the Preschool.

Christ Lutheran School and Preschool has a written disaster plan with a detailed earthquake plan. Parents may view this in the preschool office at any time.



Nutrition

We have two snack times each day, one in the morning and one after a nap in the afternoon. Children will bring their own healthy snack each day. Please bring the snack in a separate bag or small snack container, and make sure that it is clearly labeled with your child's name. Snacks should be placed in the snack bin in your child's classroom.

Parents are responsible for notifying the director and teachers of any special dietary considerations or food allergies the child may have.

For those children staying for lunch:

- Parents are to provide a nutritious well-balanced lunch.
- Lunches should include a fruit, vegetable, bread/grain and a non-fatty protein.

- Sugary drinks, sweet desserts or foods with artificial colors are discouraged.
- Sodas and candy are **not acceptable** and will be returned home in the child's lunch box.
- **Do not send;** hot dogs, whole grapes, nuts, popcorn, raw peas, hard pretzel, spoons of peanut butter, or chunks of raw carrots, they are known choking hazards for children under 4.

Parents will be notified of lunch needs/suggestions for the child if they arise. For the health of the child, his/her lunch box must be cleaned regularly.

See Appendix B for good suggestions for lunch, serving sizes and nutritional requirements for children.

Nap/Rest Time

For the good of the children and to conform to licensing regulations, an afternoon rest period is scheduled for all children enrolled for full days. We know that not all children require an afternoon nap, but all will be required to rest quietly on their mat.

The preschool will provide a sheet for your child's nap cot. These will be washed weekly by a staff member. It is recommended that parents provide a lightweight **crib-sized blanket**, and a small pillow and/or sleep friend (small stuffed animal), according to the child's needs.

All bedding items must fit completely inside the child's cubby. State licensing requires that individual bedding be stored separately and not touch the bedding of others.

It is the parent's responsibility to launder the extra bedding items every week and return it to the center the next day the child is in attendance. A pillowcase is a handy storage container for the bedding.



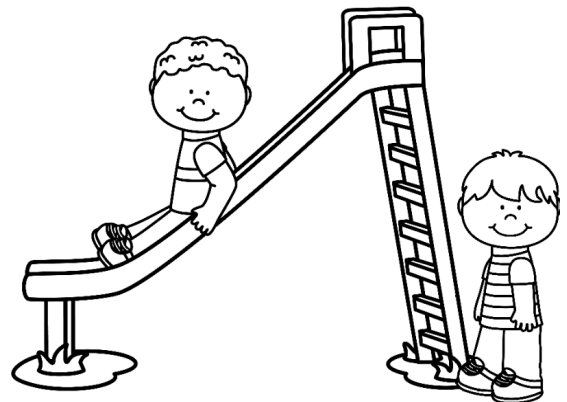
Things from Home

Please do not bring toys to school. The center has many excellent materials for the children to use at school. Broken and lost toys cause undo hardships for young children in the preschool setting. Teachers may ask for educational theme based items from time to time. Please let a teacher know of the special item, and make sure that it is clearly labeled with your child's name.

Dress Your Child for Play

Please dress your child in comfortable play clothes with shoes suitable for active play:

- Select clothing that enables your child to easily use the toilet – no one-piece shirts with snaps, overalls, belts or one-piece outfits.
- Children must wear shoes at all times. No cowboy boots, no “flip-flop” type shoes, and sandals must have a strap across the foot and behind the heel. Socks are recommended with all shoes.
- Girls wearing play dresses are **strongly encouraged** to wear shorts underneath.
- Please keep all forms of dress-up and costume wear for home use only.
- All children need to have at least one complete change of clothing, including socks and underwear, in their cubby.
- Children must have a jacket or sweater at school at all times. Weather can be unpredictable.
- Please **LABEL ALL** clothing clearly.



Diapers

If your child is not potty-trained yet, please be sure to have an adequate supply of diapers or pull-ups at the preschool. Please also check that the size you have for your child fits them well. We will notify you via text or email if your supply is low. We do not provide diapers. Please consult with your child's teacher should you decide to begin "potty training."

Toilet-Training Policy

Children enrolled in the "2 year old classroom" are not required to be toilet trained. When it is time to begin toilet training, parents must speak with the classroom teachers to partner with them in reference to our "Toilet Training Policy" that must be followed. You will then receive a letter that must be signed in agreement with our policies for accomplishing this task. Students must be showing the following signs to begin the "potty training" process at preschool: staying dry for long periods of time, recognizing when diaper is wet or soiled, has bowel movements at regular times, can undress and pull up his/her pants, and initiates interest in using the potty and asks to wear underwear (additional signs of readiness are listed in our "Toilet Training Policy"). All children enrolled in the "3 year old" and "4 year old" classrooms must be fully toilet trained. Children must be able to manage using the toilet with independence. This includes taking their clothing on and off, wiping themselves, flushing, and washing their hands. While teachers are available to help with buttons and snaps occasionally, we ask that you dress your child in clothes that they can manage independently, such as shorts and pants with elastic waistbands. Accidents may occur from time to time. When an accident occurs, teachers will assist children by guiding them step-by-step through the process of changing their clothing. If a child has a bowel movement and cannot wipe, parents may be notified to come get their child. If a child has more than four accidents in a two week time frame, parents will be asked to keep their child home for a one week period of time to complete toilet training the child and to develop bathroom independence (tuition is not waived during this time).

Birthdays

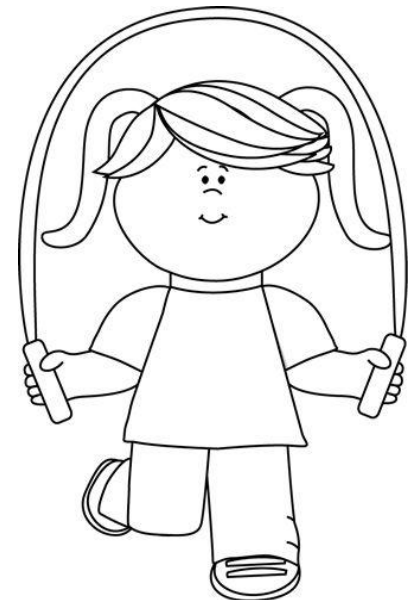
We celebrate student's birthdays at school with a special crown, singing, and a special prayer. Each child may bring their favorite book to school to have the teacher read it aloud to the class that day. We have students enrolled in our program that may have severe allergies that we must accommodate. Parents also may not distribute food, candy, or other treats to classmates or other students. These are current mandates set by community Care Licensing, Title 22. Please note that birthday celebrations are designed for the students and teachers in the classroom only.

Parent Participation

Parents are welcome to visit the center at any time. If your visit will be for an extended time, or you will engage or hand anything to a child, you will need to present proof of immunization for MMR, Influenza, and Pertussis as stated by law in Title 22. Anyone who "regularly" volunteers with the children will need to be fingerprinted according to California State Licensing laws. Notes and sign up lists will be posted in the classrooms as needs/events occur.

The parent organization of Christ Lutheran School is the Parent Connection. It schedules various events throughout the school year for parent participation and family fellowship. Information about the events will be publicized.

Each room will have one Room Parent who will work with the Parent



Connection in carrying out school activities.

Chapel

Once a week the children will be taken to the church sanctuary for a worship time geared for young children. Chapel will be held on alternate days. Parents are urged to join us for our church worship times if possible. Consult the weekly newsletter for times and dates.

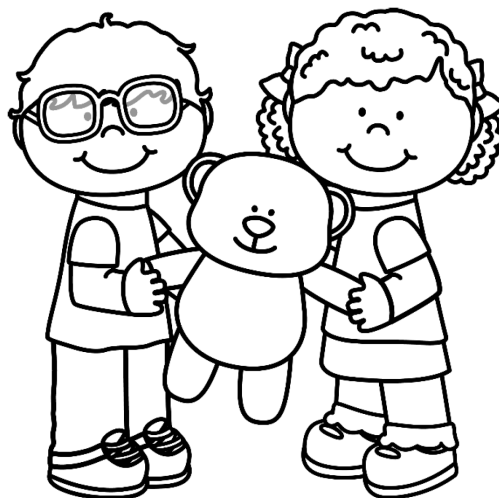
On the first Wednesday of each month, the 3 year old class and pre-K class will join the elementary school children for all school chapel time. These chapel times will begin at 9:15am. Parents are also welcome to join us for these worship times.

Discipline Policy

We believe that all children have the potential to make good choices. But all of us at times make choices that affect others or ourselves in a negative way. If a child engages in unacceptable behavior, we will explain to him/her why his/her actions are unacceptable. Then together, the teacher and child will plan some ways for changing the problem behavior. This may mean the child is redirected to a different area on the playground or in the classroom. It may mean the child is not allowed to continue playing with a toy or piece of equipment that he/she may be using inappropriately. Or it may mean placing the child outside of the group but within sight of the teacher if the problem occurs during group activities. We always encourage children to make good behavioral choices, and will do our best to help your child learn appropriate behavior in the group setting. We will also encourage your child to develop healthy coping skills to work through frustration.

All persistent behavior problems will be reported to the child's parent/guardian. Documentation will be made of persistent behavior problems. If the problem continues, the teacher and/or director will meet with the parents to make an action plan for desired behavior change. The child who continually hurts others will be removed from the program. The following steps will be taken before the child is removed from the program:

1. Parents will be notified of persistent behavior problems.
2. Parents will meet with the teacher and director to discuss the problem situation.
3. An action plan, which may include counseling, will be implemented to attempt to alleviate the problem behavior.
4. If, after two weeks, or a time specified by the teacher and director, no improvement is evidenced, the child will be removed from the program.



Biblical Approach to Gender and Sexuality

The following approach, regarding civil liberties and Biblical standards addressing sexuality, is designed to ensure that Christ Lutheran Church and School operates in a manner consistent with the Word of God and in line with doctrine of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Our approach is rooted in the Bible because we believe that our identity is in Jesus Christ and that the Bible is the inspired written Word of God.

Our understanding of human sexuality begins with our belief that each human being is created in the image of God as either male or female (Genesis 5:1-2), a biological sex and gender encoded genetically and manifested physiologically before birth. In addressing each other, we will only recognize pronouns of him and her based on the biological sex and gender of a person at birth.

We also believe that sin has brought brokenness and corruption to the created order. This, at times, has caused disorder and confusion regarding gender identity and/or sexual attraction. God calls us to “love one another” (John 13:34-35) despite the brokenness and pain of our sinful world. However, despite sin and its consequences, we seek to honor the created order of “male” or “female” as defined above from conception.

We also believe marriage is the union of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24). All sexual activity is to take place within that God-given boundary of marriage. The family units thus formed on these principles provide the foundation for civil society.

We also believe in God's transformational grace and love (Romans 12:2), who, in love, sent His Son Jesus to give His life on a cross and rise from the dead. The power of Jesus' grace and resurrection can bring healing and help to those who struggle with these issues (Ephesians 3:20).

Biological sex is either male or female. Gender is encoded genetically and manifested physiologically before birth. Students whose biological sex at birth was male will be classified as boys, and students whose biological sex at birth was female will be classified as girls. For these reasons, the following shall be in place when accessing school facilities and programs.

1. Any student enrolled at Christ Lutheran School and Preschool shall, when utilizing a multiple-occupancy restroom, utilize the facility corresponding to that student's biological sex, as recorded on the student's original birth certificate, (ordained at birth).
 - a. Nothing herein shall prohibit the school from designing or designating restroom facilities for use by one person at a time. Such facilities may be designated for use by both sexes.
 - b. Nothing herein shall prohibit a person entering a restroom designated for use by a particular sex:
 - i. For custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes.
 - ii. For rendering medical or emergency assistance.
 - iii. For accompanying a person needing assistance; or
 - iv. Where a facility has been temporarily designated for use by individuals of the opposite sex as defined herein.
2. Any student enrolled in Christ Lutheran School and Preschool shall, when participating in an athletic program offered by the school, participate on the team that corresponds with the student's biological sex, as recorded on the student's original birth certificate. Exceptions will be made when, due to low enrollment, a co-ed team is needed to be formed for the school to participate in a sport during a particular season.
3. Students will not be addressed by a pronoun or a description that does not align to their biological

sex at birth, including 'they' or 'them'.

4. In circumstances when students are divided by gender for class activities, they will be classified by their biological sex at birth.
5. Established dress code policies for male and female students will be required by biological sex at birth.

Our school and preschool believes, teaches, and confesses the unchanging truth of Holy Scripture and subscribes to the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of the Word of God. We believe that all statements, approaches, and procedures must be Christ-centered, Biblically based, and in concert with both the Great Commission (Go and make disciples of all nations. Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandment (A new command I give to you, that you love one another... John 13:34) given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that all children benefit from a Christian education. Following Jesus' direction in Mark 10:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these," we promise to provide this education to the best of our ability--God enabling and empowering us to do so. To that end, we promise that our pastors, teachers, and staff will teach, embody, and live in a manner consistent with the Christ-centered, biblically based beliefs of Christ Lutheran Church and School.

We will continue to welcome and minister to those living outside of this sexual ethic, reaching out with the love and grace that is found in Christ, even while we seek to uphold this biblical approach with regard to sexuality. Jesus welcomed those who are not living according to God's plan even while he desired to transform their hearts and change the trajectory of their lives. Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord (Romans 8:39).

YOU WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING RELEASES BEFORE ENROLLMENT CAN BEGIN:

Release Information

- I grant permission for my child(ren) to use all of the play equipment and participate in all the activities of Christ Lutheran Preschool.
- I grant permission for my child(ren) to leave the center premises under the supervision of a staff member for walks around Christ Lutheran Church Ministries facility and on pre-announced field trips.
- I have no objection to my child being included in photographs, slides, audio or video recordings taken at the center or on center field trips, which may be used for the purposes of interpreting the center program. I understand that any recording or observation will be done only with the consent of the director and under the supervision of the classroom teacher.
- I understand that I must notify Christ Lutheran Preschool of my whereabouts when I am not at the locations (phone numbers) indicated on the emergency care card.
- I agree to inform Christ Lutheran Preschool of any and all personal changes in circumstances which would affect the child at the center, i.e. marriage, separation, divorce, change in employment or enrollment status, change in address or phone number, and illnesses.
- I have read a copy of the Parent Handbook and agree to follow the center policies as stated in the handbook as well as those listed above. The handbook is available on our website – www.lutheranschool.org – or you may ask for a printed copy in the preschool office.
- I acknowledge that I have received the Parents Rights form (LIC995) and the Personal Rights Form (LIC613) from Community Care Licensing.

Medical Release

Administrative procedures vary among medical personnel and medical facilities with regard to provision of medical care for a child in the absence of the parent. The exact procedure required by the physician or hospital to be used in emergencies should be verified in advance.

In case of an accident or emergency, I authorize a staff member of Christ Lutheran Preschool to take my child to the physician noted on the emergency care form or to the nearest emergency hospital for such emergency treatment and measures that are deemed necessary for the safety and protection of the child; as well as emergency medical transportation as deemed necessary, at my expense.

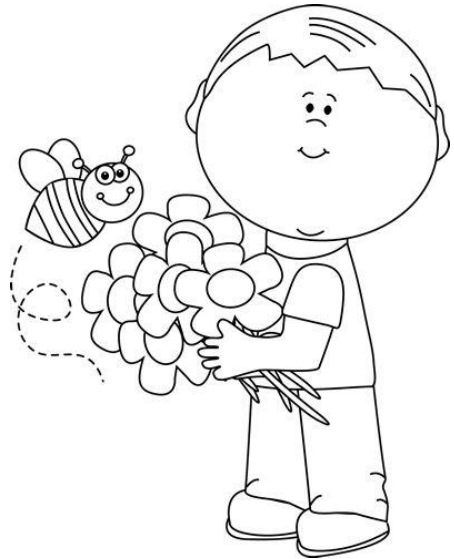
Appendix A

Disaster Preparedness

As we all know, when an earthquake or other emergency strikes, it strikes without warning. Christ Lutheran Church Ministries has implemented a preparedness plan that we feel will act in the best interest of your child.

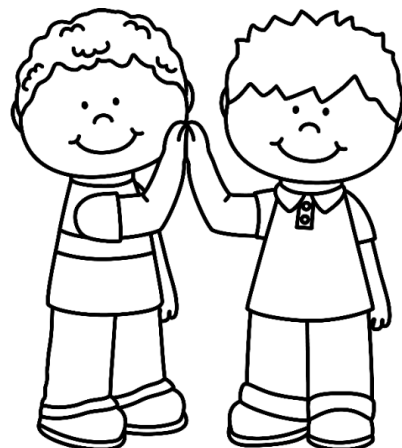
In the event of an earthquake or other emergency, we will:

- Keep your child at the center.
- Provide first aid as needed.
- Not allow anyone except authorized personnel on site.
- Release children only to persons listed on your Emergency Information Form.
- Take your child, should we need to evacuate our building, to the nearest safe location. Our master plan is that everyone will be relocated to our first level parking area and Extended School Care room in the K-8 school building.



As part of our preparedness plan, we are prepared to keep your child(ren), if necessary, for up to 72 hours. Christ Lutheran Church Ministries has purchased Emergency Kits that will take care of the needs of all children and personnel on campus at any given time. Each classroom is equipped with an Emergency Packet that provides the staff members with the necessary procedure instructions and materials that will best equip them to handle such an event. All faculty members have been informed of procedures and assigned tasks in the case of any emergency.

If you have any questions about our total facility plan for addressing emergencies, please speak with the director of the preschool. You may also view our master document, which is located at the sign-in counter, at any time to examine the details of our emergency plans.



Appendix B

Nutritional Information

Recommended Servings for Children:

Breads, Cereals, Rice, & Pasta	4-6 servings/day
Vegetables	2-3 servings/day
Fruits	1-2 servings/day
Milk, Yogurt, and Cheese	2-3 servings/day
Meat, Poultry, Fish, and Eggs	1-2 servings/day

What is "One Serving"?" (Serving Sizes)

Breads, Cereals, Rice, & Pasta	1 slice of bread; 1 cup of dry cereal; ½ cooked cereal; ½ hamburger bun; ½ english muffin; ½ c. cooked pasta or rice
Vegetables	½ c. cooked vegetables; 1 c. leafy, raw vegetables (such as lettuce or spinach); ½ c. raw vegetables
Fruits	1 whole fruit (apple, banana, orange); ½ grapefruit; 1 melon wedge; ½ c. cooked/canned fruit; ½ c. fruit juice; ½ c. berries; ¼ c. dried fruit
Milk, Yogurt, and Cheese	1.5 oz cheese; 1 c. milk; 1 c. yogurt; ¼ c. cottage cheese
Meat, Poultry, Fish, and Eggs	1 egg; ½ c. cooked beans; 2 oz. meat, fish, or poultry; 2 Tbsp. peanut butter

The most beneficial diets are those made up of a variety of foods from each of the five food groups. The preceding serving size guide is just a beginning. For more information, you may choose to consult your pediatrician or these websites:

Eat Well Live Well Research and Information Center: www.healthyeating.org

International Food Information Council: www.ific.org

Sample Menus

Try to include food from each group in the child's lunch each day. Snacks need to be two items from two different food groups.

Here are some sample menus:

BREAD	1 slice of bread	5 wheat crackers	½ english muffin	2 whole graham crackers	1 c. dry cereal	½ bagel
FRUIT	Whole apple cut in sections	1 banana	15 grapes cut in half	Whole orange peeled	½ c. blueberries	½ c. strawberries
VEGETABLE	4 carrot chips	1 c. raw vegetables cut into bite size pieces	5 celery sticks	¼ c. green beans	1 Tbsp. cooked sweet potato	1 Tbsp. tomato sauce
PROTEIN	2 Tbsp peanut butter	1 ½ oz of hard cheese	1 hard boiled and peeled egg	½ avocado diced	3 Tbsp. hummus	½ c. black beans
MILK	1 c. milk	1 Tbsp. cream cheese	1 c. yogurt	¼ c. cottage cheese	1.5 oz hard cheese	1 c. frozen yogurt

We are required by law to make sure that each child has 2 healthy choices (from 2 different food groups) for each snack, and 4 choices for their lunch meal (also from different food groups).

The staff of Christ Lutheran Preschool is committed to ensuring your child's proper nutrition. If we see a need in your child's lunch, there will be a note in the child's lunch box. Please know we are only looking out for your child's best interest.

Nut-Free Facility

At Christ Lutheran, it is our top priority to ensure that all children are always safe. While peanut butter and jelly is a preschool staple it presents a huge challenge for us and a danger to our students who are allergic to peanuts.

Christ Lutheran Preschool is a peanut, cashew, pistachio, and Brazilian nut free school. Parents **cannot** send peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. We do allow sun butter or almond butter. The sandwich must be labeled sun butter or almond butter. Please do not send trail mix, protein bars that have peanuts, cashews, pistachios, or Brazilian nuts in them. This policy is in place to best protect all our students from exposure.

- **Hard boiled egg (6 grams of protein)**
 - Egg Salad sandwich, egg wrap, hard boiled egg and pasta
- **Lentils or black beans $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (7 grams of protein)**
 - tuck them in a burrito, make a pureed dip with salsa
- **Greek yogurt $\frac{1}{2}$ cup 10 grams of protein**
 - greek yogurt with honey, or fruit on top
- **Tuna fish 26 grams of protein for 3 oz**
 - tuna salad sandwich, tuna with crackers, tuna with plain pasta
- **Mini pizza, $\frac{1}{2}$ mini bagel or English muffin**
 - pizza sauce, shredded cheese, sliced ham or pepperoni, olives
- **Cheese and crackers (7 grams in one slice of cheese) with fruit and veggies**
 - cheddar cheese slice 7 grams, string cheese 7 grams
- **Quesadilla with shredded chicken (14 grams of protein)**
 - mini whole wheat tortilla with chicken and cheese
- **Shredded chicken (7 grams of protein per ounce)**
 - served with plain pasta or rice, and steamed carrots or broccoli
- **$\frac{1}{2}$ Avocado diced (2-3 grams of protein)**
 - served with plain pasta, crackers or rice
- **Mini bagel with cream cheese (2.14 grams of protein)**
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ bagel or mini bagel with cream cheese
- **Humus and dippers (3 TBSP 3.6 grams protein)**
 - thins strips of pita bread, small crackers or veggies
- **Meat, cheese, and veggie wraps with hummus spread**
 - spread hummus on a tortilla, add preferred deli meat, with sliced cheese
- **Mac and cheese with a pureed sweet potato or butternut squash**
 - prepare mac and cheese, add a pureed veggie of similar color
- **Turkey, apple, cheddar pinwheels**
 - sliced turkey, thinly sliced apple, and spinach, rolled in a tortilla and sliced



Prohibited Foods that are known choking Hazards

The following foods may not be served to children under 4 years of age due to choking hazards.

- Hot dogs (whole or sliced in rounds)
- Whole grapes
- Nuts
- Popcorn
- Raw Peas
- Hard Pretzels
- Spoons of Butter
- Chunks of Raw Carrots

Appendix C

Communicable Diseases Reportable in California

- Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
- Campylobacteriosis
- Cryptosporidiosis
- Diphtheria

- E. Coli 0:157
- Encephalitis - Viral, Bacterial, Fungal
- Foodborne Illness (food poisoning)
- Giardiasis
- Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)
- Hepatitis A, B, Delta, Non-A/Non-C, or Unspecified
- Kawasaki Syndrome
- Measles (Rubeola)
- Meningitis - Viral, Bacterial, Fungal, or Parasitic (specify etiology)
- Meningococcal Infections
- Mumps
- Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
- Poliomyelitis
- Psittacosis
- Reye Syndrome
- Rheumatic Fever, Acute
- Rubella (German Measles)
- Salmonellosis
- Streptococcal Infections (outbreak)
- Tuberculosis
- Typhoid Fever
- Vibrio Infections
- OUTBREAKS OF ANY DISEASE
- OCCURANCE OF ANY UNUSUAL DISEASE

*Disease reporting is everyone's responsibility in California. Reporting ensures the safety of the public, our children, the staff, and you. If you know of a child or worker in your childcare facility with any of the listed diseases, please contact: **County of San Diego, Department of Epidemiology at 236-3598***

Appendix D

Children's Personal Rights

- Each child will be accorded dignity in his/her personal relationships with staff and other persons.
- Children will be accorded safe, healthful and comfortable furnishings and equipment to meet his/her needs.
- Children will be free from corporal or unusual punishment, infliction of pain, humiliation, intimidation, ridicule, coercion, threat, mental abuse or other actions of a punitive measure.
- There will be no interference with a child's daily living functions, including eating, sleeping or toileting; or withholding of shelter, clothing, medication or aids to physical functioning.
- Children will not be locked in any room, building or facility premises by day or night or be placed in any restraining devices without advance approval by the licensing agency.
- Authorized representatives of children in the facility are to be informed by the licensee of the provisions of law regarding complaints including, but not limited to: the address and telephone number of the licensing agency's complaint receiving unit, and of information regarding confidentiality.

The appropriate licensing agency to contact regarding complaints is:

Community Care Licensing Division
Child Care Program
7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 110
San Diego, California 92108

(619) 767-2200

Appendix E

Right of Inspection

- The Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing agency has the authority to inspect any child care facility at any time in accordance with the California Child Day Care Facilities Act.
- The Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing agency has the authority to interview children or any staff member and to examine all records relating to the operation of the facility, including children's records.
- The Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing agency has the authority to observe the physical condition of the children, including conditions which would indicate abuse, neglect or inappropriate placement, and to have a licensed medical professional examine the children.





**CHRIST LUTHERAN
SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL**
L A M E S A C A L I F O R N I A

Developing dynamic disciples for Christ!