

North Trenholm Baptist Church Weekday Education

6515 North Trenholm Road Columbia, South Carolina 29206 Telephone (803)790-5104 Fax (803)790-0948 NorthTrenholm.org

INFORMATION BOOKLET ~ 2025-2026

Weekday Director Pam Cates

Office Manager Kristen Chaneyworth

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY:

The North Trenholm Baptist Church Weekday Education admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.

North Trenholm Baptist Church Weekday Education is a developmental program designed to nurture each individual child so that the child may develop his/her total person: spiritually, mentally, socially, emotionally and physically. This is best achieved when teachers and parents become partners with God to encourage and enhance each child's growth.

Our curriculum is designed to:

- Provide for individual needs and growth with the realization that each child learns best in a warm, secure environment where love and acceptance is felt.
- Provide learning activities that recognize preschool children follow similar developmental sequences in unique ways and at different rates.
- Provide a learning environment that encourages participation, curiosity, exploration and creativity, which in turn will increase the child's knowledge and add to the child's confidence.
- Provide guidance for each child whom we recognize as a special creation of God, uniquely gifted "fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139:14)

POLICIES/PROCEDURE FOR NTBC WEEKDAY EDUCATION:

- 1. **REGISTRATION:** Registration for each fall session will begin in January preceding the fall term. Church members and children already enrolled in our program have the opportunity to register before registration is open to the public. All students must enroll each year. Student registration forms are confidential and are kept on file in the Weekday Office. There is no automatic reservation! The registration form must be completed and accompanied by the **NON-REFUNDABLE** registration fee of \$175 for church members and \$200 for non church members in order to secure a spot. By registering your child and accepting a space in our program, you are agreeing to abide by our policies as outlined in this handbook.
- 2. TUITION: Tuition fees are printed each year in advance of registration. Monthly tuition for the preschool months of September May, covers the 9:00 AM 12:00 PM hours. Extended Care fees are charged by the hour and are included in your monthly statement the following month. The summer months follow a similar monthly tuition with hourly fees payment schedule. Monthly invoices are emailed to you; a paper copy is available upon request. No child can be kept on roll longer than one month for delinquent accounts unless special arrangements have been made for payment. We are a nonprofit organization, therefore prompt payment is most necessary. Payments should be made to the Weekday office or paid online through the Procare website or app by the 15th of each month to avoid a 15% late charge. There will be a \$30 fee for any returned check from the bank and this amount will added to your bill.

There is a tuition break of \$10 for more than one child in a family enrolled full-time and a \$5 break for more than one child in a family enrolled part-time (first child full price).

Registration fee for Toddler - 4 Years of age: \$175.00 registration fee for church members. \$200.00 for nonchurch members - nonrefundable, due when registering.

Toddlers: Must be 1 by September 1 and walking

2 days per week (Tuesday & Thursday) \$330 per month 3 days per week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) \$350 per month 5 days per week (Monday - Friday) \$370.00

2 Year Classes: Must be 2 by September 1 3 days per week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) \$330 per month 5 days per week (Monday - Friday) \$350 per month

3 Year Classes: Must be 3 by September 1 and potty-trained 5 days per week (Monday - Friday) \$350 per month

4 Year Classes: Must be 4 by September 1 5 days per week (Monday - Friday) \$350 per month

Extended Care (Monday - Friday)

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM & 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM @ \$9.00 per hour *if you have 2 or more students @ \$7.00 per hour

- 3. WEEKDAY ENTRANCE/SAFETY: For both security reasons and health precautions, all parents/visitors are greeted at the door. If entrance to the building is required, parents/visitors will be escorted to their destination. At NO TIME should doors be propped open.
- 4. **IMMUNIZATION:** The South Carolina Department of Health requires that SC DHEC form #4024 be kept on file on all children. These forms must be presented to us on or before the opening day of school. Children who are not fully immunized for their age cannot attend school. Please give the office an updated form each time your child has shots. We <u>do not</u> accept The Religious Exemption form for immunizations.
- 5. ATTENDANCE: Each classroom teacher will take attendance each day. The roll will be taken with the teacher at any time the children exit the classroom to go outside, to another teacher's classroom, or any place in the building that is outside of the classroom. In extended care, the teacher will use am/pm extended care attendance sheets to account for the child's presence from the time they arrive in extended care and leave for the day. If a child is absent for a full month the regular tuition must be paid to hold his/her place in the Weekday Education program. If you have reason to withdraw your child from our program, a thirty (30) day notice is required prior to the withdrawal date.
- 6. **ILLNESS: Please advise the preschool when your child has been exposed to contagious disease.** Children who show signs of illness* cannot be accepted at the Weekday program. Please do not treat your child's fever before sending to school. A child should be kept at home when any of the following exists:
 - a. *fever
 - b. *vomiting or diarrhea

- c. *any symptom of the usual childhood diseases—Scarlet Fever, German Measles, Mumps, Chicken Pox, Cough and Flu
- d. *common cold—from onset through one week
- e. *Croup
- f. *sore throat
- g. *any unexplained rash
- h. *any skin infection-boils, ringworm, impetigo
- i. *pink eye and other eye infections
- j. *green or yellow runny nose due to infection
- k. *Covid

We cannot accept a child with any of the above listed symptoms unless the child's physician states in writing that the child is not contagious and can be in a group situation. When your child has had strep throat, he/she should remain out of school until he/she has been on oral medication at least 48 hours or 24 hours after an injection. A child must be free of fever 24 hours before he/she returns to school. A child with chicken pox generally should remain out of school until all eruptions have completely scabbed over. Children who are not well enough to go outside in good weather are not well enough to be at school and should be kept at home.

If a child becomes ill and has a temperature of 100.4 while he/she is in our care, you will be notified and asked to pick up the child within 30 minutes. Parents will be notified if their child is injured or involved in an accident.

Medication: Only children with a signed medication form for the day may be given medication. **DO NOT PLACE MEDICATION IN YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH BAG.** Medication should be given directly to an adult. A medication permission form is required and will be available for you in the Weekday Kitchen. Medication will be kept in the kitchen in a locked box and dispensed from there according to instructions of parent. <u>A record of time and dosage amount given</u> will be kept for reference. Medication will not be dispensed without proper written instructions. In the event of a medicine error a parent will be called and notified in writing.

- 7. EXTENDED CARE: Available September May from 7:30 AM 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM 6:00 PM at an hourly rate. Please note that children will not be received until <u>7:30 AM each morning</u>, Children may be brought to Extended Care any time between 7:30 AM and 8:50 AM. Extended Care workers will document the arrival and departure time of each child. An NT Staff member will accompany students to their classrooms. Children using the afternoon session should bring a lunch and will be accompanied to Extended Care by an Extended Care worker. Extended Care is available year round, closing on holidays. Summer hours are from 7:30 AM 5:30 PM. Children who use Extended Care services must be signed-in/signed-out.
- 8. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE: Your child is the most important person to consider as the day begins. Under NO circumstances should any child enter the church building without an adult escort. We do not permit a child to be left in a room alone. The daily schedule begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 12:00 PM.

Please do not bring your child earlier than 8:50 AM unless he/she is going to

Extended Care. Due to the nature of our program and the well-being of our students and staff, we are not able to accommodate students who will not arrive by 9:30 AM every day. We know occasionally students will have doctor appointments or family emergencies. Please let the office know ahead of time and bring a doctor's excuse when you arrive at school for that day. In the event of an emergency you will need to call the office before 9:30 AM. Any student that arrives after 9:30AM will not be allowed to attend school or extended care that day. All children not staying for Extended Care should be picked up no later than 12:15 PM. After that time your child will be in an Extended Care classroom. If you are unable to pick up your child on time, please notify the office. If your child has not been picked up by 6:00 PM an additional charge of \$5 per minute will be added to your account. If parents are habitually after 6:00 PM picking up their child, they may be asked to withdraw the child from our program.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- a. Encourage your child to walk with you to the preschool door. Do not carry them. This provides a feeling of independence before arriving at the door.
- Reassure your child that you will be back. <u>Kiss and hug him/her</u> at the door and leave. Making a quick break is much easier for the child and the parent. If a child cries very long and is very upset we will contact you to come and get him/her. You are welcome to call to check on your child.
- c. Pick up your child on time. It is sometimes frightening if you are late and your child has to be taken to Extended Care without previous preparations.
- d. Encourage your child to talk to you about things he/she does each day.
- e. Refrain from discussing your child with the teacher in his/her presence.
- f. Expect your child to have happy experiences in his/her class. Be enthusiastic and positive about what your child does at Weekday.
- 9. CONFERENCES: The purpose of NT Weekday is to help all the children develop good habits, attitudes, and become adjusted in school life situations under a Christian influence. Parent/Teacher conferences are encouraged and welcomed by appointment. A parent or faculty member should feel free to request a conference when they think one is needed. A "parent advisory form" will be used by all staff members in making parents aware of situations concerning their child (accidents, injuries, behavioral concerns, etc.). The staff member will check "yes" if she feels the need for a conference. You should call for a time that is convenient for the two of you. Teachers will offer a conference in the spring to discuss the developmental progress of your child.

- 10. **DISCIPLINE:** If a child is acting in an inappropriate manner, the discipline methods to be used are as follows:
 - » Talk with the child about the behavior and how to handle it.
 - » Place the child in a Time Out Chair, inside the classroom, facing the classroom activities. "Time Out" is a place to observe how other children are acting, and determine how the child needs to behave when he/she is with his/ her friends. Recommended length of the time out is no LONGER than one minute at his/her age.

EXAMPLES:

Toddlers, maximum time out is 2 minutes

2 years old, maximum time out is 3 minutes

- 3 years old, maximum time out is 4 minutes
- 4 years old, maximum time out is 5 minutes

After the child has been in time out, the teacher will follow up with some key questions to help the child understand why they were in time out.

- A. Why were you sent to time out?
- B. What could you have done so that you would not have ended up in time out?
- C. How would you feel if... (Johnny/Susie hit you)?

The teacher will always tell the child that he/she is loved and give him/her a hug before sending him/her back to the group.

- » If talking to the child and time out does not work, the child will be taken to the Director. If this does not work then a conference will be held with the parents, teacher and Director. If parents are cooperative and willing to work with us to resolve the problem (to include home discipline, professional testing and/or intervention) we will work with them. A disciplinary plan will be put in place.
- » If the discipline problem continues even with the cooperation of the parents, parents will be asked to come to school to discipline the child. If the behavior has not been redirected, the Director may find it necessary to ask that you remove your child for a time to be determined by the Director.
- » No staff member of NTBC Weekday Education program use corporal punishment with a child. If this ever happens, it will result in immediate termination of the staff member involved.
- » Whenever your child's actions involve another child you will receive written notification.
- » BITING/AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR: Biting is often a normal part of a child's development during certain ages. However, there are times when biting/aggressive behavior occurs when it is not developmentally appropriate or involves the well-being of other children and the following action will need to be taken:
 - A. **First incident** the parent will receive a note from the teacher.
 - B. **Second incident** a conference will be scheduled with the teacher and/or Director

C. **Third incident** - if after a conference this behavior has not been re-directed, the Director may find it necessary to ask that you remove your child for a time to be determined by the Director.

INFORMATION:

North Trenholm Baptist Weekday Education is registered by D.S.S. and must meet safety and health standards each year to retain this registration. Our program is inspected by DHEC and the Fire Marshall each year to assure that their codes are met.

- CHANGE of address or telephone number: The Weekday Education office needs to be advised of <u>ANY CHANGES</u>. This includes home and alternate numbers given in case parents cannot be reached. We also need work number and cell phone numbers where applicable. With the use of the Procare Childcare software, we require updated email addresses as well.
- 2. **PICK-UP:** No child will be allowed to leave the school with anyone other than the parents or persons listed for pick up on the registration form. If a child is to go home with a friend or any other person, <u>written permission must be given</u>. If at any time we have reason to be concerned about who is picking up a child other than the normal person we will ask for identification, check the child's registration form or call the parent to verify who is picking up the child. In the case of custody issues, it is the policy of NTBC to abide by all legal court documents. No parent will be denied access to their child unless there is a court order on file in the Weekday Office.In the event an impaired adult should arrive to pick up a child from Weekday the following steps will be taken: We will call the next contact on the emergency form and detain until said emergency contact arrives. In the event no other responsible adult is available we will call 911.
- 3. **REST TIME:** During the afternoon children will have a rest period. We provide cots and blankets. Children are not required to sleep. If they have not fallen asleep within 30 minutes they are allowed to do **quiet** activities on their cots. <u>All children do need a few quiet minutes and should not disturb others who need a nap</u>. Help us make rest time as positive as possible by exhibiting a positive attitude about this procedure.
- 4. LUNCH TIME: Parents will provide lunch for their children who are staying for Extended Care. Lunches need to be at school no later than 9:30 AM. Upon arrival, lunches will be placed in one of two refrigerators located across from the office. Please pack nutritious foods in child-sized portions. Round, firm food shall not be offered to children younger than 4. Examples of these are hot dogs, grapes, hard candy, nuts, peanuts and popcorn. Hot dogs may be served if cut lengthwise and quartered; grapes may served if cut in half. An emergency lunch can be provided by the school for a fee of \$5.00.

- 5. **POTTY TRAINED:** We are required by DHEC to maintain specific diaper changing areas with appropriate surfaces & disinfectants. We do not have diaper changing areas in our 3 & 4 Year Old classes. It is our policy that **ALL** children entering the 3 Year Old program are able to use the restroom independently unless there is a documented developmental issue. For children learning how to potty train in the 2 Year Old classes, parents must use the Velcro tab/type pull-ups during the initial transition time period of learning to potty; which allows for quick changing and assisting each child. Multiple sets of underwear and clothes will need to be sent as children progress in this process. Please label all articles of clothing.
- 6. **DRESS:** Parents can help by dressing their children in <u>washable, comfortable</u> <u>clothing so they can play and work and not be afraid to get dirty.</u> Please send a change of clothing to school in a large ziplock bag for your child's teacher to keep in the classroom with his/her name clearly marked on all clothing. No matter how well the teacher tries to help the children protect their clothing there may be unavoidable accidents. Easy to manage clothing, such as pull on pants without belts, help children to be independent and feel good about taking care of themselves. Tennis shoes need to be worn or available to wear on the playground. If a child brings home items which are not his own, you can help correct the error by bringing them to the Weekday Education Office immediately. All items should be clearly marked with child's first and last name.
- 7. **VOLUNTEERS:** Each classroom teacher will ask for a volunteer to become the room mother/father for the school year to coordinate parties and other special activities.
- 8. **CALENDARS** will be sent home once per month. Class newsletters will be sent as needed. It is very important that parents read all notes that are sent home. Many times failure to read the newsletter completely prevents your child from being appropriately prepared for special activities.
- 9. **PARTIES & CELEBRATIONS:** A child's birthday may be recognized at school during snack time with a special snack from you. This is to be arranged with the teacher several days ahead of time. It is the policy of the Weekday that party invitations not be passed out in the classroom unless every child is included. The teacher and the homeroom mother/father will set party times and menu. The parents will then be contacted by the homeroom mother/father with specific items needed. In the event a parent calls requesting information regarding a playdate or a party the school will only give out an address.

We celebrate the following holidays:

<u>Fall Festival</u> <u>Thanksgiving</u> <u>Christmas</u> <u>Valentine's Day</u> <u>Easter</u>

- 10. **SNACKS:** We will serve snacks mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Teachers will ask parents to sign up to send the morning snack. Teachers will have suggestions for snacks related to the unit of study. Children under three may not be given certain snacks for safety reasons.
- 11. **SCHOOL CALENDAR:** School will always begin the Tuesday after Labor Day. It is the policy of our Weekday Education to follow the school calendar of Richland District 2 with the exception of opening and closing dates. A copy of the school calendar will be given at the beginning of the school year and will be available online at the Weekday page.
- 12. **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** It is the policy of NT Weekday Education to close for inclement weather based on Richland District 2's decision to close. Delayed openings in Richland 2 means pre school will start at 9:00am and no morning extended care. <u>Please listen to a local radio/TV station with regards to a District 2 decision. Unlike District 2 we do not make up days because of bad weather.</u>
- 13. **TOYS:** Age appropriate toys and equipment are in each classroom. Children <u>should</u> <u>not</u> bring toys from home unless it is Show And Tell day. It is very difficult to keep up with toys brought from home and the Weekday cannot be responsible for the safety of these items.
- 14. **PARENT ADVISORY FORM:** The following form will be used to notify parents of discipline concerns, minor injuries and other issues that need to be brought to the attention of parents:

PARENT ADVISORY NOTICE		
Time:	Da	ate:
Child's Name		
Teacher		
Concern		
	NORTH TRENHOL	:m
Action Taken _	AFEKD/	
Tc	eacher's Signature	Director's Initials
	ORIGINAL - PARENT COPY - OFFICE	

- 15. EMERGENCY MEDICAL PLAN: When a child is involved in a life-threatening accident or situation, **911** will be called and the Director or teacher will accompany EMS and the child to Prisma Health Children's Hospital-Midlands Children's Emergency Center. Parent permission for emergency medical treatment is given on the child's confidential form and it will accompany the director to the hospital. Parents will be contacted by the Weekday office and asked to meet at the hospital. If a child is involved in a non-life threatening accident and medical attention is required, parents will be contacted to take child to the doctor. When parents aren't able to be reached the child will be transported by the Director to the child's doctor and parents will meet them there.
- 16. EMERGENCY SITUATIONS: <u>1. Lock Down</u>: No one enters or leaves the building until an all clear from the police department is issued. <u>2. Modified Lock Down</u>: We are all secured and in the building. Parents will be allowed to pick up in a controlled manner. <u>3. Procare Messages</u>: We will send Procare messages to inform and update as events occur. We will answer everyone as soon as we can. <u>4. Calls and Messages</u> to Weekday will be answered as the situation allows. <u>5. Main Entrance</u>: Per our new policy you are to enter and exit only at the main entrance to Weekday.

Monthly drills to practice emergency situations will be held. This includes, but is not limited to... fire drills, earthquake drills, tornado drills and intruder drills.

17. **EVACUATION PLAN:** The following is our emergency evacuation plan that will be followed by North Trenholm Baptist Weekday if county or state officials should order that the children be evacuated during an emergency. During an immediate evacuation there would not be enough time for you to pick up your child at our facility.

Some examples of emergencies that might require immediate evacuation are:

* Weather emergencies

* Fire (children would be evacuated to the gym at the back of the church property. If the entire church property needed to be evacuated parents would need to call the number listed below and plan to pick up their child at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church. (across Trenholm Road).

* Any threatening situation that may pose a health or safety hazard.

If we should have to IMMEDIATELY evacuate our preschool facility and property, we would transport the children to FOREST LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - ACROSS TRENHOLM ROAD.

We will make every attempt to notify parents by telephone of the location to which we have been evacuated. If we have not been able to reach you, please call one of the numbers below to find out where we are caring for your child. TELEPHONE NUMBER803-790-5104 (Weekday Education Office Number)803-787-2133 (Church Office Number)

Emergency Evacuation Number 803-787-5672 (Forest Lake Presbyterian Church)

- 18. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS:** Procedural safeguards are in place to protect the confidentiality of each family enrolled in NTBC Weekday Education.
 - » All files will be maintained in a locked file cabinet.
 - » Files will not be left on desks or elsewhere unattended.
 - » Volunteers will not have access to files.
 - » Files and information will only be shared with authorized personnel as it relates to providing care and service to your family.

19. **PROCARE BILLING/MESSAGING SYSTEM:** NT Weekday uses Procare Childcare Management software for our billing, communication and tracking needs. We use the Procare system so that parents can access monthly invoices and tax records, our preschool can communicate with parents quickly (including emergency or weather-related infromation) and parents can make online payments for tuition (online payment options include credit, debit or ACH - some fees may apply). After registering your child with NT Weekday, you will be asked to sign up with Procare. Once your account is activated, you can choose to download the app, or access your account at www.myprocare.com. Contact the Weekday Office if you need assistance with Procare.

Notes



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