



PRESCHOOL HANDBOOK

Rev. Aug 2023

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Introduction

It is our belief that when parents and teachers include God in the instruction of their children, God will bless the learning experience mightily. .

These children are already beginning to form important attitudes towards learning, each other, themselves and God. Having God in the curriculum adds an essential dimension to all that they learn in school.

We, as parents and teachers, have a great task influencing and encouraging children to grow into the person in whose image they were created.

"Feed my Lambs." John 21:15

Goals

- Provide a setting in which every child can enjoy school.
- Help each child feel good about him or herself.
- Provide for each child's individual interest.
- Use the child's interests and background as a basis for classroom activities.
- Provide opportunities to learn academic skills through day-to-day activities in which children are naturally engaged.
- Help each child develop a good attitude and love for learning.
- Build awareness that the world about him or her is a creation of God.
- Provide each child with opportunities for developing problem-solving skills.
- Allow students to make decisions to help them develop decision-making skills.
- Develop the child's curiosity by encouraging questions.
- Provide opportunities for creativity.
- Encourage helpfulness and cooperation.
- Develop self-reliance and independence.
- Provide healthy social interaction among children.

"These commandments I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on you children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 6: 6-7

School Calendar

A school calendar will be posted on the MGCS website. Teachers will also be giving you a calendar/newsletter with important dates to remember for their classroom.

School Day

Classes begin and dismiss as follows:

	<u>Begin</u>	<u>Full Day Dismissal</u>	<u>½ Day Dismissal</u>
3 year olds	8:30	12:15	NA
4 year olds	8:30	12:15	NA
Full Day Transitional Kindergarten	8:30	3:00	12:00

Preschool classrooms open at 7:50 for early arrival. All other preschool children should arrive between 8:05 A.M. and 8:30 A.M. Should you have an emergency, please notify the office that you will be late, after 12:30 your child will be placed in Emergency aftercare at a charge of \$25. If someone other than the regular person is picking up your child, we must have a written note that day from the parent as to whom we can dismiss the child.

After School Care

After School Care is available to preschool children from 12:15 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. in the afternoon. If you are planning to use the after care program, the registration form must be completed and submitted. If your child attends After School Care, please supply a lunch, an after-school snack, a backpack and an additional set of weather-appropriate clothing. State regulations require that all preschool children staying in after school care must have a lunch consisting of foods from the four major food groups. Each child's lunch must contain a protein, fruit or vegetable, dairy & grain product. If the child's lunch does not contain all of these food groups, MGCS is required to purchase them from our lunch service. Parents will be charged for the food items purchased.

Dress Code

Jackets, gloves, sweaters, book bags, etc., must be marked with his/her name. Since classes visit the playground daily, as weather permits, be sure your child has shoes that are appropriate for outdoor play (tennis shoes or sneakers). Please do not send your child to school in cowboy boots, cleats, flip flops, or open-toed sandals. We recommend that students wear socks with any type of footwear.

Boys may not wear earrings. Girls may wear small earrings. No large-loop earrings may be worn due to safety issues.

If needed, apply sunscreen to your child before coming to school.

Discipline

At Myrtle Grove Christian School we will discipline in a loving Christ-centered manner. All preschool teachers use a positive reinforcement discipline method. We provide:

- Guidance that is positive
- A Biblical worldview approach to being kind, loving others and doing the right thing
- Explanation of what is expected, what is acceptable, and what is not acceptable
- Ways to help your child grow toward being responsible for his/her age and maturity level. Persistent misbehavior will result in a parent teacher conference and may result in dismissal from the preschool

Biting

We do not allow children who continue to bite other children to remain at MGCS. A child will be given three chances to correct a biting habit before being dismissed. If a child bites another child and breaks the skin, the biting child will be immediately dismissed from the class.

Conferences

Conferences will be scheduled during the school year as deemed necessary by the parent or teacher. Conferences may be requested in the winter before re-enrollment.

Student Requirements

All students must have the following in their records prior to starting school:

- a copy of the child's birth certificate proving the child will be the proper age of the class
- a copy of the child's immunization record proving immunizations are up-to date

Illnesses

It is the policy of our school that children should not be sent to school when they have a contagious disease (chicken pox, measles, scarlet fever, impetigo, scabies; head lice, pinworms, pink eye, strep throat, etc.) We also ask that you do not send a child who is showing signs of illness. Such signs include fever, diarrhea, vomiting within the past 24 hours, fresh colds, deep coughs or sore throats. If you feel the need to give tylenol or motrin in the morning your child is most likely not well enough to attend school.

Students must be "symptom free" for 24 hours before returning to school.

A child will be sent home when any of the following symptoms appear:

- temperature of 100 degrees or higher
- excessive coughing, shortness of breath
- any of the contagious diseases listed above
- vomiting or diarrhea

This is for the protection of all children and teachers. If a student becomes sick during the school day they will be taken to the school nurse, parents will be notified and students will be kept in the Wellness Center away from other children until a parent arrives.

Medications

Teachers will not administer medicine to a student without a previously written and signed permission form. Forms are provided in the office. Prescription medication must be in the original container and administered as prescribed. It is the parent's responsibility to take the medicine to the school office where the medicine will be administered. **DO NOT send any medicines in your child's lunch box or book bag.**