

kids first



LEARNING CENTER

PARENT HANDBOOK

Revised June 2023

WELCOME

Thank you for taking an interest in Kids First Learning Center (KFLC) at First Baptist Maryville. We are honored that you have entrusted us with the care of your child. It is our goal to provide a quality learning experience for your preschooler. KFLC offers two day classes for children ages 18 months - Pre-K; three day classes for 3 year olds and Pre-K, and four days classes for Pre-K. Class placements are based on the child's age as of September 1. Children must be at least 4 years old by September 1 of the enrolling school year to enroll in Pre-K classes. Our developmentally appropriate curriculum provides hands-on learning activities for each child that focus on fine and gross motor skills, music, art, science, math, language and the Bible.

This booklet has been prepared to help you understand our purpose and policies. Please read over the material carefully and feel free to contact us with any questions. Policies can change at any time.

OUR PURPOSE

First Baptist Maryville wishes to minister to the surrounding communities through our KFLC program. We have designed KFLC with the following purposes in mind:

- To offer parents a safe, caring, loving place to bring their children while they tend to other needs.
- To offer children a safe, caring, loving place to come while they are away from their parents.
- To teach social skills--how to interact with other children and how to overcome separation anxiety.
- To teach basic age-appropriate education skills.
- To teach children Biblical truths

ADMISSION

Kids First Learning Center admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin. Kids First Learning Center has the right to deny or terminate admission to any student whose behavior is not in accordance with the policies in this handbook. Applying to Kids First Learning Center does not guarantee enrollment.

HOURS OF OPERATION

KFLC operates Monday - Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. from late August - May.

- Children ages 18 months-3 years may attend 9:30-2:30 (nappers only) or 9:30-1:00
- Pre-K4 children attend 9:30-2:30 (no naptime)

Kidzone operates Monday-Thursday, before and after school More information on Kidzone can be found on page 14, and on our website.

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STUDENT/TEACHER RATIO

18-23 month old classes (BLUE) are limited to 8 children with 2 teachers (4:1)

2 year old classes (GREEN) are limited to 10 children with 2 teachers (5:1)

3 year old classes (ORANGE) are limited to 12 children with 2 teachers (6:1)

K4 year old classes (PURPLE) are limited to 16 children with 2 teachers (8:1)

KFLC STAFF

KFLC teachers and staff members are thoroughly screened and receive ongoing training courses. They must submit to yearly background checks. CPR and first aid certification is offered to all employees and many of our teachers hold teaching degrees. Each staff member is a Christian and involved in their home church.

SCHEDULE

Daily schedules vary depending on each class. Most classes will participate in the following activities each day. (Not necessarily in this order.)

- School wide chapel (Pledge of Allegiance, Bible pledge, memory verse, worship songs)
- Bible and Circle Time (calendar, weather, etc.)
- Snack and Lunch – provided by parents
- Age-appropriate, Bible-based Educational Learning
- Music, Arts & Crafts, Sensory, Centers
- Free Play (Indoor or Outdoor Playground, Gym, or Classroom Toys)
- Nap or Rest Time (18 months - 3 years who stay until 2:30 only)
- K4 Classes also include weekly Physical Education, STEM lab, Music appreciation and Library

AGE-APPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT

Our program is designed to help children develop in age-appropriate ways. Each classroom will seek to provide every child intellectual, emotional, social, physical, and spiritual development. A list of age-appropriate developmental abilities can be found at the end of this booklet. If teachers observe, at any time throughout the school year, that a child is significantly struggling to meet milestones in any of these areas, a conference may be scheduled to discuss a plan of action.

New incoming students will be screened prior to acceptance into the program for speech, cognitive, social, fine and gross motor skills. Any known delays or concerns should be disclosed during the registration process. If it is determined that the student

requires additional accommodations outside our standard classroom, admission may be denied or delayed.

Our desire is to provide a loving, nurturing, educational environment for all children. However, our program may not best meet the needs of every child. If the classroom or individual safety cannot be maintained, a child may need to be removed or placed elsewhere within the program.

ENROLLMENT

Open enrollment to the public begins in January each year. Registration applications and all other required forms are available online at kflc.org.

Applying to KFLC does not guarantee enrollment. Acceptance into the program and class assignments are made based on the child's age as of September 1, placement interviews, and availability in the appropriate classroom. We are not able to accept special requests for teachers or classmates.

18 month olds must be able to walk. Three and four year olds must be toilet trained in order to attend.

If space is not available for your child, they will be placed on our waiting list and notified if and when an opening is available. Children applying after the school year has begun will be placed if openings are available. Tuition payments will be prorated for any child who enrolls mid-month.

Once a child is enrolled, they will remain in their classroom for the entire school year. If you choose to withdraw your child from the program, please notify the director ten days in advance with a written notification. Your tuition continues to accrue until a written notification is given.

Your child will NOT be applicable for enrollment until ALL the following items have been accomplished, in its entirety, as explained in this handbook. All forms, tuition prices, and registration prices are available on our website kflc.org:

- Registration Application submitted
- Non-refundable Registration/Supply Fee paid
- EFT form completed, along with a voided check
- Copy of child's Birth Certificate (new students only)
- Immunization Records submitted (can be faxed to 618-667-0650 Attn: KFLC)
- Placement Interview completed (new incoming students)
- Kidzone form and fee (if applicable). See page 14 for Kidzone information.
- Medical Action Plan and Food Allergy Assessment forms (if applicable)(Obtain MAP form from allergists/pediatrician)

You will receive an email from the Director after submitting the Registration Application. The email will contain information about any remaining requirements needed for your child to be enrolled. If you do not receive this email (check spam folder) within 5 business days, please contact the Director.

Your child's class assignment will be sent at the beginning of August.

RE-ENROLLMENT - REQUIRED YEARLY FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

Students currently enrolled in the program must re-enroll every school year. Enrollment for current students and their siblings begin prior to the open enrollment in January each year. KFLC will contact families with the exact dates of re-enrollment. All tuition and fees must be up to date before registering for the following school year. Should you choose to withdraw, then re-enroll your child into the program within the same school year, a \$10 registration fee will be assessed. Once classes are full, children will be placed on a wait list.

REGISTRATION/SUPPLY FEE-NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

In order to be considered for enrollment/re-enrollment in our program a *non-refundable* Registration/Supply Fee must be paid per student after submitting an online Registration Application. The fee prices are available on our website. The non-refundable fee can be paid by cash, credit card (small fee applies) or check payable to: Kids First. Refunds will only be granted if the child's application for enrollment is denied by KFLC.

ORIENTATION

KFLC will host orientation days prior to the first day of school for enrolled students and their parents/guardians. The exact date and time and details will be sent to you at the beginning of August. This will be your opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see their classroom, attend an informational parent meeting and let your child get acquainted with everyone before the first day of school. Orientation will last between 30 - 60 minutes.

TUITION

Tuition schedule and fees are online at kflc.org. Tuition is determined by the actual number of days for your child's class during the school year divided into 10 equal monthly payments.

The first payment is due in August and the last payment in May of each school year. We strongly encourage automatic withdrawal (EFT) as your form of payment. EFT forms are available on our website at kflc.org, and must be returned completed with a voided check attached. There is no charge for this service.

EFT amounts default to the monthly tuition amount only, and do not include Kidzone charges (before and after school program). Kidzone payments can be cash, check or payment online at www.schools.procareconnect.com (credit card fees may apply).

If you need to set up an alternate pay date or method for monthly tuition, please contact the director in advance. A late fee will be assessed for payments made after the 10th of each month. If the 10th falls on a day when we are closed (Friday-Sunday), any in-person tuition payments will be due the Thursday prior to the 10th. Online payments can be made 7 days a week. Account balance and activity can be obtained

at www.schools.procareconnect.com. Families who are behind in tuition payments may lose their child's place in the program.

No refunds will be given on tuition payments after it has been paid. A \$25.00 fee will be assessed for returned checks.

Because of financial commitments which must be made early in the planning for each new school year, KFLC expects each family to be committed financially for the full school year. Absence from the program does not preclude payment of tuition. If a student leaves the school for any reason before the end of the school year, tuition will continue to accrue until a ten-day written notice has been given to the Director from the parents.

SECURITY

For your child's protection, each family will be issued two security badges and/or car signs with the child's last name. Items will be handed out at orientation. Designated persons should wear their badge when entering the building and during the duration of their stay. Entering and exiting can only be done at the main entrance of the church at all times. If any person does not have a badge or has forgotten the issued badge, they will need to stop at the front desk to have their Driver's License scanned in order to obtain a visitor badge for that given day. Visitors will need to sign out upon leaving the building. The safety of every child is our top priority. Please follow all of our security policies and procedures. It is the responsibility of parents to inform others who are transporting their child of all security requirements. Detailed drop off and pick up procedures will be discussed during orientation. See alternate pick up on page 8 for more.

We encourage staff and guests to follow the "see something, say something" policy by reporting suspicious behavior to a member of security or administration. All staff are required to follow emergency response procedures. Staff training drills will be conducted yearly.

PICK-UP TIMES

Children, ages 18 months - 3 years may be picked-up at 1:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. depending on the schedule selected on your enrollment application. Children staying until 2:30 p.m. (other than Pre-K4) will nap between 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Children will be required to stay on their nap-mat and remain quiet during the entire hour and a half. If a child is not able to do this, their pick-up time will be changed to 1:00 p.m. If you would like to change the pick-up time mid-year, please notify the director. All Pre-K students will stay until 2:30 p.m. with no nap option.

LATE PICK-UP

If you are unable to pick-up your child by the designated time because of an unforeseen situation or emergency, you must call the director to report your delay. Regardless of the reason, if you are more than ten minutes late, a fee of \$5 for each

additional ten minutes will be charged. It can be paid at the time of occurrence or added to your account. This includes 1:00 p.m. pick-up, and Kidzone pick-up. Habitual late pick-up is grounds for dismissal from the program. If a child has not been picked-up within 45 minutes of dismissal without prior notification from the child's parent and KFLC is unable to make phone contact with the parent, police will be called.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Drop off and pick up procedures will be discussed during orientation.

EARLY PICK-UPS

If you need to pick up your child early, please alert their teacher. You must stop at the church front desk or security. KFLC will be notified of your arrival, and a staff member will bring the student to the church foyer for pick-up.

ALTERNATE PERSON PICK-UP

PLEASE NOTIFY THE TEACHERS IN ADVANCE if someone other than a parent or regular caregiver is picking-up the child. This person must present a valid picture ID and know your child's password, chosen at the time of registration. Staff will not release children to unknown persons without pre-approval from the parents. KFLC reserves the right to delay or refuse student pick-up in the event that it would be an unsafe condition for the student.

ABSENCES

Please notify administration at 618.505.7007 or by email if your child will be absent. If no one answers, please leave a message stating the reason for the absence. We need to know if your child has contracted an illness that may have been exposed to their classmates. Please see the Health and Hygiene information on pages 8 & 9 to determine whether your child is able to attend school.

VACCINES & IMMUNIZATIONS

For the protection of your child and others, KFLC follows the vaccines and immunizations schedule of the Centers for Disease Control. The list of vaccines and immunizations and suggested schedule can be found at cdc.gov. KFLC does not accept children who are not immunized, even if they have an exemption, religious or otherwise. Updated immunization records can be faxed to 618.667.0650 Attn: KFLC.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

For the protection of your child and others, KFLC follows the recommendations by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and the AAP (Academy of Pediatrics) for guidelines that pertain to childhood illnesses that will keep them from being able to attend school on any given day. As child care providers and parents, we both share the responsibility and common goal of maintaining health and preventing the spread of contagious diseases for all children in our program. Young children get sick more often because their immune systems do not fight illness as well as adults and they have not

yet been exposed to many of the germs that cause infection especially during their first year of group child care.

Children will not be allowed to attend or stay in attendance at school when any of the following conditions exist:

- Fever. Any temperature above 100.0, for any reason. **Children must be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication for a minimum of 24 hours.**
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea (also cannot attend if laxative products have been given). **Children must be free from vomiting/diarrhea for 48 hours prior to their return to school.**
- Any unexplained rash, sores, blisters or skin infections: boils, ringworm, impetigo
- Head lice
- Pink eye or any other eye infections
- Breathing trouble, sore throat, persistent hacking cough
- Runny nose (other than clear), draining eyes or ears
- Whooping cough, hand, foot and mouth disease or any other contagious diseases
- Symptoms of COVID 19

*Please refer to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for current guidelines for COVID 19

If your child develops any contagious illness, the parent is required to notify the Director so proper precautions can be taken and notification given to other parents. We may require a physician note as to whether or not the child can be in attendance. We do take into consideration physician recommendations, nevertheless it is up to the Directors' discretion as to when your child may return to school. If you are not sure whether or not your child can attend or needs a physician's note then please ask the KFLC Directors. Children who become ill must be isolated to prevent the spread of germs. This makes it difficult to meet the needs of all the children in our program. It is the parent's responsibility to have alternative arrangements made beforehand, should this situation arise, and to have the ill child picked up immediately. Please keep in mind that if your child can't participate comfortably in activities, is in need of care that is greater than staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children, and/or poses a risk of spreading harmful disease to others then they will be excluded from school. KFLC reserves the right to temporarily delay any child admittance to the school for reasons of illness, or to request early departure should symptoms become apparent during the course of the day.

Teachers are instructed to follow recommended hygiene policies such as:

- Correct hand washing methods
- Use of hand sanitizer
- Use of disposable gloves for diapers and bodily fluids
- Reporting accidents or injuries

Students should arrive at school prepared to learn and safely participate in activities along with any adaptive devices, mobility equipment, or corrective aids prescribed by a healthcare provider (i.e. glasses, hearing aids, wheelchair, etc.). Please remember

that our goal is to protect the health of all the children and families in our program. Only oral inhalant and emergency medications will be administered by staff. All non-emergency medications (i.e. pain medications or antibiotics) will need to be administered by parents before or after school.

MEDICAL PLANS OF ACTION

It is the goal of KFLC to provide a safe and healthy environment for each child enrolled in the program. In the event that medical treatment is needed, the following protocols will be used:

Injury Action Plan

In the event of a minor injury, i.e., scrape, small cut, bump from a fall, we would quickly assess the injury, apply proper first aid care to the injury, and notify parents of injury in a timely manner. If an injury requires more than first aid, we would quickly assess the injury, call 911 (if necessary), and notify the parents immediately.

Allergy and Asthma Action Plan

If a student in a classroom has severe and or life-threatening allergies then the entire classroom will become an allergy safe classroom. Your child's teacher will let you know and post on the door if and what the classroom must be free of. Most children, because of their young age, in our program don't understand allergies and may inadvertently give or come in contact with the allergic product which would jeopardize the health risk of the allergic child.

Any student enrolled in our program who has a medical condition that requires medical care or devices to be administered by the staff must have a Medical Action Plan Form completed and signed by the child's parent(s) and physician. A Food Allergy Assessment Form must be filled out for all food allergies. If a child enrolled in our program requires an epi-pen or asthma inhaler both staff in the classroom will be trained to administer it. In the event of a medical reaction, the Medical Action Plan will be implemented and the parents notified immediately.

Main symptoms of an allergic reaction include:

- Hives, itchy rash and/or swelling of the lips, tongue, mouth or about the face
- Itching and/or sense of tightness in the throat, hoarseness, and hacking cough
- Nausea, abdominal cramps, vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Shortness of breath, repetitive coughing or wheezing, passing out

Main symptoms of asthma reaction include:

- Labored, fast, or shallow breathing during normal activities that usually don't get the child winded. Shortness of breath
- Chest congestion, tightness or chest pain, particularly in younger children
- Severe wheezing when breathing both in and out
- Tightened neck and chest muscles, called retractions
- Frequent, intermittent coughing
- Fatigue
- Difficulty eating, sucking or talking
- Pale, sweaty face. Face and lips may turn pale or blue
- Feelings of anxiety or panic

COMMUNICATION

We want to ensure that every parent in our program has the opportunity to stay informed. Communication will be provided on a program-wide and individual classroom basis, including:

Communication from teachers:

- Folder sent home each day with class information, including classwork
- Classroom newsletter or Procure apps

Communication from KFLC administration:

- Important notes sent home in folders
- Regular updates to Kids First Learning Center Facebook page
- Important notifications on the Procure app/website (schools.procureconnect.com)
- Messages on electronic message boards at each hallway

KFLC administration can be reached at the information found on our website. Your child's teacher will be available during school hours through the Procure site. Questions regarding a particular classroom should first be addressed to the teacher.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

It is the goal of KFLC to provide a warm, caring environment in the classroom to promote feelings of self-confidence and self-control in each child. We encourage children to make good choices regarding their behavior, and to show respect to the teachers and other children in the classroom. Continual aggressive or defiant behavior will not be accepted.

Expectations for a child's behavior shall be appropriate for the developmental level of the child. This shall be done by the establishment of simple understandable guidelines for the children to follow. We refer to these as ROAR: **R**espect others, **O**bey the teachers, **A**cept **R**esponsibility for your actions. Praise and encouragement of good behavior shall be used instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior. Redirection or brief supervised separation from the group may be used when necessary.

Discipline includes listening, being patient and sensitive; firm, but friendly and age-appropriate time out. Moderately increased tone of voice can be effective in managing a child's behavior. The KFLC staff will not demean a child or use physical punishment in any way to correct a child's behavior. Children shall not be permitted to intimidate or harm others or themselves or destroy property. If a child continues to behave inappropriately, it may be necessary to have the parents involved. The needs of the child will be our highest priority. Repeated discipline issues may require a parent conference with the director and removal of the child from the classroom or program.

WHAT TO BRING

Each child should bring a full size backpack or diaper bag to store personal belongings. Include in the bag the following items. Please **LABEL** all items with your child's name:

- Change of season appropriate clothes (extra pants, shirts, socks, underwear, and shoes)
- Small jacket if needed
- Diapers and wipes (if applicable)
- No-spill cup filled with water
- Healthy sack lunch and drink (please include utensils if needed) Lunches can not be refrigerated or heated for consumption
- Small healthy snack
- Nap mat for rest time (not necessary for children leaving at 1:00 p.m. or Pre-K4)

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Breakfast
- Toys from home (except for show and tell)
- Candy, gum, soda, and other sweets
- Cash or coins
- Expensive hair bows, barrettes and jewelry as these tend to get lost or misplaced

It is extremely important to LABEL ALL of your child's belongings, including backpacks, lunch boxes, jackets, and sippy cups.

DRESSING YOUR CHILD FOR CLASS

Please dress your child for his/her comfort. While we take every precaution to protect clothing during craft experiences, we cannot always prevent accidents. For your child's health and safety we request the following:

- Shorts under dresses for girls
- Closed-toe sneakers-no sandals or boots (child should be able to put their own shoes on and off - slip on shoes preferred. No high tops or shoelaces.) Shoes are required for all students.
- Socks for all children (required for indoor playground)
- Toilet trained children should wear underpants
- Layers in winter for classroom comfort

TOILET EXPECTATIONS

Toilet Trained: All children who will be 3 and 4 years old by the first school day must be completely toilet trained. This means they do not have to be asked if they have to go and are able to handle all bathroom duties without assistance. You must notify the director by August 1st of the starting school year if your child isn't toilet trained by that date. The director will give you the options that are available at that time. One of the

options that may be available to your child is to be placed on a wait list until they have been toilet trained. Please note that the class may be full when it's time to admit the child back in.

Toilet Training for 2's: We ask that you try to begin training during the weekend or on vacation. We will follow through and encourage your child here at school, but the child must be showing signs of readiness. When a child is ready, the process should go quickly. A child who is ready can verbalize and have enough control so that he/she has enough time to walk to the restrooms.

LUNCH AND SNACK TIME

Lunch and snacks are provided by the parent. Lunch must be in a school lunch box labeled with the child's name. Lunches will not be refrigerated or heated up here at school. Please include ice packs and utensils if needed. Lunch should include nutritious drinks and foods that the child likes to eat and can easily manage on their own. Candy, gum, soda, fruit snacks and popcorn should not be included. All fruit and meat must be cut into quartered pieces.

We always begin our lunches with prayer and then the child is offered the meat/sandwich and vegetables/fruits servings first then other foods last. This will promote good table manners and eating habits. Please check with your child's teacher for any lunch and or snack instructions, or any class allergies.

HOLIDAYS & PARTY DAYS

KFLC will observe Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, and Easter. Other federal holidays may be observed if they occur on a school day. Specific dates are listed on our website calendar. *KFLC will not distribute any items related to Halloween, Santa, Leprechauns or the Easter Bunny. No costumes are allowed.* Most classes will have party days during the school year. Parents may or may not be included in the parties based on the teacher's discretion. KFLC does not participate in off-site field trips, but we do have occasional on site special events.

BIRTHDAYS

Please check with your child's teacher before bringing any treats into the classroom. The classroom may have allergy concerns, may prefer to have non-food items and or may have a class birthday schedule to follow. Treats should be store bought, pre-packaged treats. We cannot give out addresses or phone numbers of other classmates for invitation purposes. Invitations can be sent in to be distributed and sent home if all students are invited.

LIBRARY

All of the students in our Pre-K4 classes have the opportunity to visit our library each week. Each Pre-K4 child will be issued a library card that is kept at school. The child will check out a book each week and return the following week on their library day. Books that are lost, damaged, or not returned will be charged to the student's tuition account.

WEATHER POLICY

Occasionally, KFLC must adjust its schedule to ensure the safety of our families and staff. In the event that dangerous conditions exist, the following measures will be taken:

School Closure

If school is canceled, we will give as much advance notice as possible for our families to make accommodations. When appropriate, school will be canceled the night before. In the event a determination cannot be made the night before, school will be canceled by 7 a.m.

School Closure Notification

In the event school is canceled, it will be posted as - Kids First Learning Center - on the following television stations:

KTVI-Fox 2 St. Louis, KMOV-Ch 4 CBS St. Louis, ABC 30, and KSDK-Ch 5 NBC St. Louis, as well as our Facebook page. Snow schedule or early dismissal notifications will be posted on the same stations.

Snow Schedule

In the event that weather conditions do not allow for a regular start time, we will invoke the snow schedule. School will begin at 10:30 a.m. Doors will open at 10:25 a.m.

Early Dismissal

KFLC will take all possible measures not to send students home during the middle of the school day. However, if deteriorating weather or road conditions require us to dismiss early, all classes will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. You are always welcome to pick up your child early if you like, we just ask that you notify your child's teacher so they can have them ready.

In the event that three or more school days are canceled, those days may be added to the end of the school calendar. No tuition adjustments will be given.

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE (KIDZONE)

Kidzone is an AM (before school) and PM (after school) fee-based program. Care is located in the indoor playground.

ELIGIBILITY

Must be an enrolled student at KFLC. Kidzone is not available for the PM care for 1:00 p.m. pick-ups.

OPERATING HOURS

The operation hours are listed on our website.

ENROLLMENT

A Kidzone application form must be filled out and a non-refundable fee paid for each child. Once enrolled the child may attend as needed, in accordance with their enrollment in KFLC.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off and pick up procedures will be given to parents upon registration. Security badges need to be visible for pick up. Parents are not allowed to remain with students during Kidzone.

ATTENDANCE FEES

Attendance cost for Kidzone is posted on our website at kflc.org. You are only billed for the days your child is in attendance at Kidzone. The billed amount remains the same even if a child is dropped off late or picked up early from Kidzone.

INVOICE PAYMENTS

Fees will be posted daily to your account and can be reviewed by logging in to your Procure account (website/app). Paper invoices will not be sent home. Payments are due by the 10th day of the following month, and late fees will apply to payments after the 10th of the month. Payments can be cash, check or paid on the Procure app with a debit or credit card (fees may apply). **Kidzone fees are NOT included with your monthly EFT draft for tuition.** Kidzone fees are processed separately.

LATE PICK-UP FEES

Please refer to our late pick up policy on page 7.

RULES

All rules and guidelines stated in the Kids First Learning Center Handbook will pertain to and are enforced and followed for the Kidzone program. The Kidzone operation and guidelines may change without notice.

About First Baptist Maryville (FBM)

FBM Mission Statement:

First Baptist Maryville is a Bible-believing congregation providing a place for Christians to:

Exalt the Savior

Equip the People

Encourage the Hurting

Evangelize the Lost

Enlarge the Kingdom

Whatever your need or interest, First Baptist Maryville is here to serve you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST MARYVILLE, VISIT: www.fbmaryville.org

DEVELOPMENTAL ABILITIES OF 18 MONTH OLDS

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL

- Sit well in chairs
- Climb
- Love to explore, moving constantly
- Use markers on paper
- Carry objects from place to place
- Walks without holding on to anyone or anything
- Feeds themselves with fingers

COGNITIVE (Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- Remember simple events
- Begin to group familiar objects
- Use trial and error in learning
- Can label body parts
- Imitate household actions
- Plays with toys in a simple way, like pushing a toy car

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Experience stranger anxiety
- Play simple games
- Can practice “taking turns”
- Like to exert control
- Recognize others’ emotions
- Points to show you something interesting
- Puts hands out for you to wash them
- Helps you dress them by pushing arms through sleeves or lifting up foot for shoes

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Tries to say three or more words besides “mama” or “dada”
- Follows one step directions without any gestures, i.e. “Give me the toy”
- Try to make themselves understood
- Understand and use words for items

SPIRITUAL

- Begin to make simple choices
- Continue to grow in trust of adults
- Begin to distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable behavior
- Begin to recognize simple pictures of Jesus

DEVELOPMENTAL ABILITIES OF TWOS (in addition to the abilities of younger children)

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL

- Develop preference for right or left hand
- Stand on one foot and balance
- Jump on tiptoes
- Walk between parallel lines
- Kicks a ball
- Runs
- Walks (not climbs) upstairs with or without help
- Eats with a spoon
- Help undress self

COGNITIVE (Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- Identify self by gender
- Match, compare, group, sort items, builds tower of 5 or more blocks
- Begin using numbers and knows most colors
- Repeat songs
- Holds something with one hand while using the other hand (i.e. taking a lid off)
- Tries to use switches, knobs and buttons on a toy
- Plays with more than one toy at the same time

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Take interest in family and initiates play with peers
- Try to help
- Can be loving and affectionate
- Are responsive to others' moods and look at your face to see how to react in a new situation
- Use imagination
- Strongly assert independence

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Use 50 to 300 words, in short sentences
- Points to things in a book, and at least two body parts, when you ask
- Uses more gestures than just waving and pointing like blowing a kiss or nodding yes
- Follow one or two step instructions

SPIRITUAL

- Can sing simple songs about God and Jesus and tell God thank you
- Can listen to Bible stories

DEVELOPMENTAL ABILITIES OF THREES (in addition to the abilities of younger children)

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL

- Use large muscles (i.e. throw a ball overhead and ride a tricycle)
- Dress self fairly easily
- Display some fine motor skills, such as stringing beads or macaroni
- Notice the differences in boys and girls
- Uses a fork
- Starting to grip pencil
- Toilet trained, during the day time

COGNITIVE (Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- Learn short songs
- Display creativity and imagination
- Experience fears and bad dreams
- Do one thing at a time
- Want to know what things are and how they work
- Draws a circle when shown how

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Try to please adults; conform more often
- Can show self-control, but resort to temper tantrums when angry
- Take turns more readily and plays with others
- Respond to verbal guidance and enjoy encouragement play with others
- Have imaginary friends
- Calms down within 10 minutes after you leave

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Use 300 to 1000 words, in complete sentences
- Talks with you in conversation using at least two back and forth exchanges
- Asks “who” “what” “where” and “why” questions
- Says what is happening in a picture or book when asked, like “running”
- Says first name, when asked, as well as the name of a friend
- Talks well enough for others to understand, most of the time

SPIRITUAL

- Can identify some Bible characters and stories
- Understand that God, Jesus, the Bible, and church are special
- Begin to understand consequences of behavior: may feel embarrassed

DEVELOPMENTAL ABILITIES OF FOURS (in addition to the abilities of younger children)

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL

- Show good large muscle coordination (catches a ball, walks backwards)
- Develop fine motor control for cutting with scissors, painting and drawing
- Need a high level of physical activity
- Eats by themselves
- Unbuttons some buttons and puts shoes on and off
- Holds pencil or crayon using “pincher grip” (not a fist)

COGNITIVE (Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- Remembers name
- Have increased attention span, and ability to do two things at once
- Are imaginative; cannot separate fact and fantasy
- Show a curiosity about life cycle
- Understand time concepts better
- Can tell what comes next in a well known story
- Draws a person with three or more body parts

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Have total confidence in own abilities
- Are bossy; tattle frequently; show great independence
- Focus on cooperative play and take turns, searches for kids to play with
- Like to be helpers if they initiate the idea
- Respond to reason, humor, and firmness and comforts others who are hurt or sad
- Avoids danger, like jumping from tall heights
- Changes behavior based on where they are (school, library, playground)

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Use 500 to 2000 words, in sentences of four or more words
- Talks about at least one thing that happened during the day
- Answer simple questions like “What is a coat for?”
- Speaks clear enough that most others can understand what they are saying

SPIRITUAL

- Like to retell Bible stories and play Bible verse games
- Recognize that God and Jesus love people and help people in special ways
- Accept responsibility for helping people
- Begin to develop conscience

DEVELOPMENTAL ABILITIES OF FIVES (in addition to the abilities of younger children)

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL

- Show good eye-hand coordination and control of large muscles
- Dress and feed themselves
- Exhibit right- and left- handedness
- Enjoy building materials with parts to assemble
- Are learning to print and copy words

COGNITIVE (Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- Are challenged by new tasks
- Seek explanations concerning why and how
- Begin to recognize basic reading words, numbers and letters and their own name
- Uses words about time like “yesterday” “tomorrow” “morning” “night”
- Enjoy classification, sequencing, and sorting
- Has a longer attention span during activities (arts and crafts or story time)

SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Play cooperatively with other children by sharing and taking turns
- Enjoy imitating adults
- Begin to distinguish truth from untruths and can accept responsibility
- Enjoy competition
- Does simple chores at home, like sorting socks or clearing the table

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Use many words without knowing their meanings
- Use a vocabulary of 2000 plus words, in complete sentences
- Tells a story they heard or made up with at least two events
- Answers simple questions about a story or book after they heard it
- Keeps conversation going with more than three back and forth exchanges
- Use or recognizes simple rhymes (bat – cat)
- Can be understood by others

SPIRITUAL

- Ask questions about God
- Express love for God and Jesus
- Can recall Bible stories and sing songs about Jesus
- Can make life application of Bible verses
- Show concern for others