

Information for Parents or Guardians Children and Youth Ministry Guidelines

Welcome!

We welcome you and your children to Franklin Covenant Church and our ministries to Children and Youth.

It is our desire and goal to support and encourage you in your role as a parent or guardian and reinforce the things you are teaching (your children) in your home. As we seek to understand the needs of children, teach them God's Word with love and compassion, together we can clear the pathway to Jesus and remove the obstacles that hinder boys and girls from coming to Him.

There are a number of opportunities for your children or youth to participate in at FCC:

Sunday Celebration

Noah's Ark	Birth – 2	STIR and Celebration II Message
Children's Bible Study	3-11 Years	During Celebration II Message

Wednesday

FCC Teens	
Jr. High	6 th -8 th Grade
High School	9 th -12 th Grade

Safe and Secure

We want an environment that is healthy, safe, and secure for your children.

We ask that parents or guardians of all children and youth that participate in FCC Children and Youth Ministry to complete a registration form and give it to your child's teacher, prior to taking part in classes and activities.

Positive, Reasonable Rules

Good rules are positive and teach children what to do and the moral reason why – they protect our children and others.

When we gather together we want our meetings to be an enjoyable and positive experience for everyone, including children. Please read and discuss the attached guidelines with your children so that you, and they, know what is expected of them.

We are excited that you have chosen to participate in FCC's Children a youth Ministry and we look forward to developing closer relationships with you and your family!

Experience God, Enjoy His People, Engage the World

John Makinson, Sr. Pastor
Elders and Staff
Franklin Covenant Church

Safe and Secure

Arrival and Departure of Children

- **Noah's Ark – 6 Years** – Parents/Guardians of children, birth – 6 years of age are required to sign their children in and out of care when picking them up and dropping off their child. The child will be released only to authorized persons as listed on the registration form by the parent/guardian.
- **Children 7-12 Years** will only be released to those authorized on the registration form by the parent/guardian. There is no sign in/out register however; parents should ensure that students are safely in their classrooms prior to attending classes or meetings.

NOTE TO PARENTS: In consideration of our volunteers and their families, please pick up your children promptly following classes or meetings.

When you arrive at meetings, please do not allow your children or youth to congregate in portico or foyer areas. These are high traffic areas for cars and people, some requiring handicap assistance, and it is difficult to exit and enter under crowded conditions. *Come on inside the meeting room where there is plenty of room to fellowship!*

Personal Belongings

Please make sure that your child's personal belongings are clearly marked. Mark diaper bags, bottles, cups, and pacifiers.

First Aid and Medications

- Basic First Aid for minor injuries is administered in the nursery area by an adult caregiver. In the event that your child is seriously injured an Accident/Incident Report will be completed by an FCC staff or volunteer and will require your signature.
- No medication, including Tylenol or other over the counter medications will be administered by an FCC staff or volunteer. Please take care of administering medications personally or prior to your child's visit.

Illness

Please keep your children with you if they have symptoms like:

- Coughing
- Runny Nose
- Fever
- Open Sores
- Rash

Snacks and Refreshments

Snacks and refreshments are provided for children and youth. If your child has a special diet or you want to provide a snack for them, please make sure that their food is clearly marked and the caregiver is aware of the special arrangements.

Positive, Reasonable Rules

Parents should –

- Not leave children unattended in the nursery.
- Supervise young children at all times.
- Assist them with food and drinks at serving tables. Children should not be allowed to serve or walk around with hot beverages.
- Supervise children while they worship with flags or other worship tools and while they dance. Discuss safety and discretion with your children as they learn to worship creatively.

Children and Youth should –

- Not run in the building or in and out of doorways.
- Use soft voices.
- Use kind words to solve problems. No hitting, biting, kicking, or name calling.
- Remain inside the building after dark.
- Not congregate behind parked cars or play in the parking lot. Fellowship in the picnic area or main meeting room.

Behavior and Discipline

Praise and positive reinforcement are effective methods of behavior management of children. When children receive positive, non-violent, and understanding interactions from adults and others, they develop good self concepts, problem solving abilities and self-discipline. Based on the the belief “love your neighbor as yourself” children will learn and develop that value if we model it to them. We will practice the following discipline and behavior management as we “love one another”.

We will...

- Praise, reward and encourage.
- Reason with and set limits.
- Model appropriate behavior.
- Listen to students.
- Provide alternatives for inappropriate behavior.
- Provide children with natural and logical consequences of their behaviors.
- Treat students as people; respect their needs, desires and feelings.
- Ignore minor misbehaviors.
- Explain things to students on their levels.
- Use short, supervised periods of “time out”.
- Practice and enforce the “6 inch rule” at all times. This means that no one should be touching anyone, unless it is during a supervised game.
- Report incidents of repeated incorrigible behavior, more than 3 offenses, to parents.

We will not...

- Spank, shake, bite, pinch, push, pull, slap, or otherwise physically punish students.
- Make fun of, yell at threaten, make sarcastic remarks about, use profanity, or otherwise verbally abuse students.
- Shame or punish a student when bathroom accidents occur.
- Deny food, bathroom privileges, or rest as punishment.
- Relate discipline to eating, resting.
- Leave children alone, unattended, or without supervision.

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- Place the children in locked rooms, closets, or boxes as punishment.
- Allow discipline of children by children.
- Criticize, make fun of, or otherwise belittle children's parents, families, or ethnic groups.

Discipline will be applied in the following manner:

- 1st Give a warning for time out. Address the issue with the student.
- 2nd Time out. 1 minute for each year of age. 5 year old = 5 minutes.
- 3rd If time out is not effective. The student will be taken to their parent. If the parent is not available, the student will be taken to the Server for time out of the classroom.

Dress

To provide an environment that is free of distractions and conducive to learning, please use discretion in clothing choices. Moderate length shorts and dresses. Modest shirts and blouses. Thank you.

Contact Information

Sunday Celebration

Noah's Ark – Suzette Meyers, 524-0316

Children's Bible Study – Renee McCall, 524-6838

Wednesdays

FCC Teens – Jeremy Bradford, 736-5883