

Family Handbook 2025-2026



First Baptist Weekday Preschool
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Welcome!

We are so glad you have chosen to partner with us this year! We believe that families are the child's first and most important guide to emotional, physical, spiritual, and intellectual development. Together, we will work as a team to teach, love, nurture, and guide your child towards independence, confidence, and self-assurance to be productive citizens of the world.

Our Philosophy

We believe that all children are designed for a unique purpose by God. Our goal is to love, nurture, protect and teach each child in our program. Children should be afforded the opportunity to engage in developmentally appropriate play and learning activities with their peers. We encourage positive social experiences to develop social-emotional skills and social language abilities. We work to support the development of the whole child, to include cognitive development, faith development, fine and gross motor skills, social/coping skills, problem-solving skills, language abilities, and pre-academic concepts.

We follow a faith-based curriculum, but we also plan activities based on children's interests. We incorporate the natural environment into our daily routines to encourage environmental conscientiousness and to help children maintain a positive relationship with nature. Opportunities to participate in movement classes, music classes and process art nurture children's artistic abilities.

We believe all children should be included regardless of ability level, race/ethnicity, or cultural background. All children can learn and being aware of the unique perspectives and life experiences of others, only enhances their learning experience.

As an outreach program of First Baptist Church Greensboro, we also believe that "our common profession of faith is "Jesus is Lord." We embrace theology that makes space for the diversity that exists in God's world. We believe that following Jesus includes a commitment to love our neighbors and make known the kingdom on earth as in heaven. We value multi-generational relationships and open discussions about life and faith. We affirm that "the earth is the Lord's" and therefore every person is a steward or manager of God's creation. We function through methods of congregational governance so that there is great transparency in finance and other matters related to the priorities of the church."

We believe that our program serves as an extension of the home family, therefore, we welcome and encourage parent/family involvement in various aspects of our programming. There are multiple chances to volunteer at special events, assist teachers with special projects and attend various preschool community events throughout the year. Parent/family involvement at preschool is specifically designed to prevent separation anxiety that can happen with preschool-aged children. One of our biggest goals beyond helping your child develop and grow, is supporting the family structure of each of the children in our care.

Registration/Tuition/Withdrawals

Registration Applications for the 2026-2027 school year will be send in January 2026. Registration for the 2026-2027 school year ends at 1:30 p.m. on January 31st, but applications will continue to be accepted as long as space is available. We will then sort registration forms according to priority: 1. Current Students 2. Members of First Baptist Church 3. Siblings of Current and Former Students and Children of former students 4. General Public You will be notified of enrollment by email on or before February 5.

IMPORTANT DETAILS: • All registrations must be accompanied by a non-refundable Registration Fee equal to one month's tuition with a \$135 maximum per family. Payment information must be entered into the secure online application portal. When payment is processed, you will not be charged more than the family maximum. If you are placed on a waiting list, we will not process your registration fee. Tuition payments are due the tenth day of each month and considered late after the 15th of the month. Withdrawals must be in writing.

Tuition Policies

Families will be notified of their monthly tuition cost in August before the next school year. Tuition is due the tenth day of each month starting September 10th and ending May 10th. Notices will not be sent, except when payment is past due (after the 15th of the month). The registration fee is non-refundable. Each month's tuition must be paid although the child may be absent all or part of the month. Monthly tuition is paid through your Brightwheel portal. • According to church policy, we will be charging a \$15.00 returned check/bank draft fee.

Via Scholarship Fund

The Via Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance based on the need and availability of funds. Families may apply for tuition assistance from the Via Fund. Families must contact the director for an application.

Parent (Family) Teacher Communication

We encourage you to give your child's teacher ample information that will help us understand your child. Feel free to always confer with teachers concerning your child's growth and development. Teachers cannot always meet for extended periods of time during the school day without a predetermined appointment time. Teachers need to focus on the needs of ALL children in the class during the school day. Telephone calls after school and emails are welcomed. Please be sure you have downloaded the Brightwheel application on your mobile device as this is our main mode of communication during the school day. Families are required to participate in the use of the Brightwheel application on their mobile devices. The school director will also communicate urgent information through the app as well. Families will receive a weekly update email to their main email address listed on registration forms, so please be sure your email address is always current with the preschool office. Parent-teacher conferences

occur once in the fall and once in the spring, families will be contacted with a schedule to sign up for these conferences.

Behavioral Expectations

We look forward to happy times with all children enrolled in the preschool. We utilize the Conscious Discipline model in our program and often refer to it with parents. We use positive guidance in directing children's behavior, setting appropriate limits (most concerning health and safety), and carefully explaining those limits to children. We believe in meeting children where they are and we will use behavior modification systems as necessary, only after discussing specific needs with parents. We encourage you to discuss any behavior concerns that you have regarding your child with the teachers or director, so that we can come up with a plan to work as a team to help your child. Should any aggressive or destructive arise that may put your child or other children at risk, we will notify you and implement a plan for reducing this type of behavior. In rare cases, should we find that the strategies we have tried are not effective or practical for long-term use, or that a student requires more intensive behavioral interventions that are beyond our scope, the student may be asked to leave the program to pursue more specialized programming. Children will be taught basic safety expectations such as using "walking feet" inside the building, using quiet voices inside, using gentle hands, practicing basic hygiene such as handwashing, and using materials appropriately/safely. Children will also develop basic work behaviors such as cleaning up toys, remaining in designated areas for activities, such as sitting on the carpet with peers during story time. Each class may have additional expectations addressing specific situations and activities for that group. Your teachers or director can answer any specific questions you may have about behavioral expectations or guidelines.

School Calendar and Summer Days

First Baptist Weekday Preschool begins a new school year on the Tuesday after Labor Day each year and concludes our school year on the Thursday before Memorial Day. We do closely follow the Guilford County School calendar each year. Families will receive a calendar for the following school year in January during regular registration. Our Summer Days programming is a camp based, learning experience that starts the first week of June each year. The programming runs through June and for two weeks in July. Families can register for Summer Days during the regular registration period in January each year. Families can select certain weeks for Summer Days (operates Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm only, no Early Arrival or After School Enrichment option). Current families will be given priority for Summer Days before children from other preschools not providing summer programming.

Documents Required for Enrollment

Every year, each family must have completed the full registration process before children can attend the preschool. Registration for the following school year open in January and is on-going until classes are filled. Children who wish to register after classes are full, will be placed on a waiting list and contacted when an opening is available. Registration can be completed online via the link provided on www.fbcgso.org/preschool/. In addition, there is a yearly registration fee per family with the amount being communicated before the registration process begins. The registration fee covers supplies and a yearly preschool t-shirt to be worn for special events. The registration fee will be billed via Brightwheel and must be paid before the first day of school. Children will have one month (30 days) from the first day of school to provide the school with an updated immunization record for each individual child. According to North Carolina Child Daycare Law, each child attending a childcare program must have current immunizations and well-checks on file. A family that chooses a “no vaccination” or delayed vaccination schedule approach may not attend First Baptist Church Preschool.

Programs

Infants/Toddlers

To best meet their developmental needs, infants and toddlers are divided into classes by age. Children who are three months old through nine months old at the beginning of the school year are in the infant class. Children who are ten months old through sixteen months old at the beginning of the school year are in the young toddler class. Children who are seventeen months old through twenty-three months old at the beginning of the school year are in the older toddler class.

Primary Purposes

Infants –

To promote healthy separation, bonding with caregivers, and a loving introduction to church and school. Focus will be on building attachments/relationships, especially with other adults. Routines and rituals will be an important part of a child’s day. Toys and activities will be designed to facilitate optimal development across domains.

Younger Toddlers –

To continue developing bonds with caregivers and to begin developing relationships with peers. The focus will continue to be on relationship building. Ideally, children will have at least one caregiver move through the early ages with them. Sensory experiences will be integral to the curriculum and developmentally appropriate practices will continue to be emphasized.

Older Toddlers –

To continue developing relationships within the framework of a child's developing independence and growing social skills. Acknowledging, respecting, and supporting a child's emotional development will be critical at this age. Activities and daily routines will have a more organized, orderly feel with times set aside for optional circle time, shared reading, simple art projects, recreation, and music.

Two, Threes & PreK Aged Children

Primary Purposes

We strive to help our preschoolers develop age-appropriate social and emotional skills through play and interaction with peers and adults. We plan activities to facilitate language skills, cognitive development, emerging independence, and connectedness with others. Most of all, we want our preschoolers to feel safe, loved, and treasured.

Two Year Olds

Two-year-olds spend their day engaging in a balance of structured and unstructured activities. Typical centers in our Twos classes include dramatic play, story sharing, blocks, sensory tables, and imaginative play. Art activities are planned to encourage self-expression and explore the process of art. Early learning skills, including counting and color naming, are introduced and practiced in developmentally appropriate ways. Teachers engage with the children as a group using books, nursery rhymes, and simple songs. Children spend time on the playground each day and attend a music class once a week. Children bring snacks and lunches from home and eat with their classmates. Snack and lunch times allow children to practice emerging social and daily living skills. Chapel is introduced at this age. Chapel services are held once a week. Two-year-olds attend after Christmas Break.

Three Year Olds

In our three-year-old classes, we build on age-appropriate social and emotional skills begun in our two-year-old classes. We design experiences that assist children in moving from parallel to cooperative play. Language skills are developing rapidly at this age, and we plan a variety of activities to encourage and nurture these skills. Typical Day Three-year-olds spend their day alternating between whole groups, small groups, and individual activities structured around child-friendly themes. Children of this age build critical thinking skills through play and experimentation in our classroom centers. Typical centers in our Threes classes include dramatic play, story sharing, blocks, sensory tables, and imaginative play. Art activities are planned to encourage self-expression and explore the process of art. Early learning skills, including counting, patterning, and early letter recognition are practiced in developmentally appropriate ways. Teachers engage with the children as a group using books and songs with attractive art, predictable patterns, and rhyming words. Children spend time on the playground each day and attend a music class once a week. Once a week, three-year-olds attend a movement class designed to enhance physical development. Children also begin to participate in weekly Spanish classes in this age group. Mindfulness practices are included in the movement class. Spiritual

development is encouraged through participation in a weekly chapel service. Daily living skills are practiced during snack and lunch times.

PreK 4 and PreK 5

In our PreK classes, we focus on social and emotional development, independence in daily living skills, and pre-academic skills designed to meet children where they are and prepare them for future schooling. Our goal is to develop critical thinkers who are excited about learning. Typical Day Four-year-olds spend their day alternating between whole groups, small groups, and individual activities structured around engaging science and social science themes. Children of this age build critical thinking skills through play and experimentation in classroom centers, large group discussions and demonstrations, and small group time with teachers. Typical centers in our PreK classes include dramatic play, art, writing, blocks, science, math, puzzles, and games. Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) principles are embedded in many of our classroom centers. Early learning skills, including patterning, letter recognition, letter sounds, counting, writing, and number skills are practiced in developmentally appropriate ways. Literacy is highly valued, and teachers spend time daily reading to the children. Children go out on the playground each day and attend a variety of special classes, including Movement, STEM Lab, Spanish and Music throughout the week. Spiritual development is encouraged through participation in a weekly chapel service. Four-year-olds also spend time each day learning and practicing specific social skills that allow them to build strong relationships with other children and adults.

Placement of Students

Students are placed in the appropriate age groups using the cut-off date of August 31st for the current year. Pre-K children who turn 5 before December 31st will be placed in the PreK5 classroom. Children who turn 5 between January 1st and August 31st of the same calendar year, will be placed in the PreK4 classroom. This enables children who wish to delay starting kindergarten another classroom option at First Baptist Preschool. If a PreK class is especially large or small based on birth dates, the December 31st day may be moved into January (or later), depending on enrollment.

Transition to Kindergarten

As you go from our preschool family, many caregivers are anxious about next steps. As your child leaves the familiar, you want to be assured they are going to the right place. As a staff, we also recognize that each individual family can be served different various school options in Guilford County. Therefore, we do not recommend schools to families (public, private or charter). We are happy to complete evaluations, screenings, or questionnaires from elementary schools for each child. If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), staff will participate in transition meetings before kindergarten. Classroom teachers will hold conferences

in the fall/spring to discuss kindergarten readiness with each family concerning their individual child.

Curriculum

We use the Pinnacle Curriculum at First Baptist Preschool. Pinnacle Curriculum is an early childhood curriculum written by early childhood experts and designed to engage children in developmentally appropriate activities. The program provides hands-on, center-based activities focused on development of emerging skills in key developmental domains. The curriculum is research-based and consistent with the ideas of prominent early childhood theorists, such as Eric Erikson (Psychological Development), Jean Piaget (Cognitive Development), and Howard Gardner (Multiple Intelligences). Incorporated into our daily routines are sensory-rich activities that encourage growth across all developmental domains. Our program works to support the development of the whole child, to include cognitive development, faith development, fine and gross motor skills, social/coping skills, problem-solving skills, language abilities and pre-academic concepts. We follow the faith-based curriculum Shine “Living in God’s Light” from Brethren Press. The First Baptist Church Children’s Ministry uses this curriculum as well. The curriculum combines developmentally appropriate bible stories, community building, peacemaking, and age appropriate spiritually practices. We incorporate the natural environment into our daily routines to encourage environmental conscientiousness and to help children establish a positive relationship with nature. Opportunities to participate in movement classes, music, and science classes nurture children’s artistic/scientific abilities. In our Threes and PreK classrooms, Pinnacle pairs with Letterland and Handwriting Without Tears to give our children a more comprehensive curriculum to access needed skills for kindergarten readiness, especially foundational reading readiness and writing. We also ready children for kindergarten mathematics by teaching number identification/writing, rote counting, one-to-one correspondence, patterning, and geometry concepts. Threes and PreK classes also utilize Bridges Math stories as a supplement to the math curriculum.

Faith Development

We feel that parents are the child’s first and most significant spiritual guide. Through we do not teach doctrine, we integrate age-appropriate spiritual development into activities throughout the day, such as offering prayers before snack and lunch, hearing age-appropriate Bible stories and verses, and participating in chapel once per week in the Threes and PreK. In chapel, children will learn simple songs and stories to support their faith development weekly. Two-year-olds join chapel after Christmas Break when appropriate regarding their focus and age-appropriate involvement.

Documents Required for Enrollment

Every year, each family must have completed the full registration process before children can attend the preschool. Registration for the following school year opens in January and is then on-going until classes are filled. Children wishing to register after classes are full, are put on a

waiting list and contacted when an opening is available. The immunization requirements will be distributed to caregivers at initial registration.

Toilet Training

Teachers are glad to assist children as they accomplish the developmental tasks of bowel and bladder control. Our rooms for children two and younger are equipped for diaper changing. Children who are not toilet trained should bring at least three disposable diapers to school each day. Diapers should be labeled with the child's name. A permanent marker is good for labeling. If, by age three, your child is not toilet trained, we will work with you on a toileting plan for school. Open communication between teachers and parents is encouraged on this matter, and the director is a good resource to utilize when discussing this developmental milestone. Children may wear pull-ups or if actively working on toilet-training, underwear. Please send multiple changes of clothing with your child if they are working on toileting. We do not hold children back if they are not toilet trained. Should your older child not be developmentally ready for this skill, we will work with you on a plan to teach this skill when they are ready. We can also provide you with resources that may help you as you and your child work on this at home. We fully believe children will toilet train when they are developmentally ready, and training early does not indicate child intelligence. Also, there is a large difference between a child being independently ready and able to verbally indicate to caregivers a need to take a bathroom break. We know that sometimes a caregiver is trained to take the child to the toilet rather than a child being trained themselves.

Handwashing

Children will wash their hands upon arrival at school. They will wash after toileting, before eating, before participating in sensory activities in the classroom, before/after using playdough/art materials, and at any other time hands become soiled.

Illness

Mildly Ill Children

Mildly ill children (minor cold symptoms, for example) may be at school provided they are able to fully participate in all activities, outdoor play included. Please note that we will not keep a child indoors during recess unless directed by a child's medical provider.

Children Who Become Ill at School

When a child becomes ill at school, the child moves from the classroom group and waits for the caregiver's arrival in an appropriate area supervised by a teacher and/or the director. A child will be sent home immediately for the following conditions: excessive cough, temperature greater than 100.4, vomiting, more than one episode of diarrhea during the school day or any other condition that prohibits the child from fully participating in the school day. The child should be picked up within thirty minutes of the initial contact from the school about the sick child. If the primary caregiver cannot be reached, the director will begin calling the emergency contacts after fifteen minutes.

Exclusion from School

Children with any of the symptoms should not be at school both for the child's comfort and in consideration of other children/staff.

- fever over 100.4
- vomiting
- diarrhea not linked to medication use (like an antibiotic)
- head lice (can return after a completed hair treatment)
- severe coughing
- pink eye (can return after 24 hours of medication)
- sore throat or strep throat (can return after 24 hours of antibiotic medication)
- infected skin patches
- open cold sores
- pain interfering with normal activity
- excessive fatigue

Readmission After Illness

Children may return to school if fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications. Please do not give your child a fever reducing medication at 7-9 am and then send them to school. These medications wear off around lunch time and staff can quickly recognize that your child is sick. Children should also stay home until they are free of vomiting and diarrhea for 24 hours AND have a normal diet again. In some cases, a physician's statement that the child is well enough to be at school may be required. Even when the child is cleared by the pediatrician and readmitted to school, it is up to the director's discretion and will be discussed with families.

Medications

Teachers will not administer medications, except for diaper rash medication (which must be labeled with the child's name and taken home daily). Over the counter and prescription medications to be administered during the school day, should be accompanied with a physician's note. The director (or a trained designee) will administer all medications, except for Epi-Pens, AuviQs and inhalers used for emergency use. If your child needs one of these medications/devices, please make sure you submit a medical plan from your child's physician on how to administer these "emergency" medications. Children with allergies needing possible intervention will have allergy plans that will be placed with their EpiPens/inhalers in the classroom so we can have them travel with the child to outside/special locations in the building.

Medical Emergencies

If a child is seriously injured and requires medication treatment, a teacher will administer First Aid or CPR as needed and will have another staff member nearby call 911. If transportation to a hospital is necessary, a staff member will accompany the child and will take the child's school

records. The school will call the parents immediately after calling 911. All staff are up to date on their CPR/First Aid certification, which is renewed each year.

Injury Reports

Any injury requiring professional medical treatment must be reported to the First Baptist Church Business Administrator using the form provided by the church office for that purpose. The report must be filed within 24 hours of the injury. The director is responsible for filing this report. Minor injuries such as scrapes, falls requiring a bandage, bumps that may result in a bruise, etc. will be reported to the parent via an uploaded incident report via Brightwheel. Caregivers will receive notifications of these reports, usually accompanied by a photo.

Chronic Illness and Disability

First Baptist Church Weekday Preschool is an inclusive school, and we value all children's unique gifts and abilities. We believe all children have the capacity to learn, communicate, play, and engage in a preschool environment. Our goal is to partner with parents of students with learning or social differences, as well as medical needs, to provide the most appropriate instruction that we can for these students. We also welcome therapists into our school and work collaboratively with them. Prior to enrollment, caregivers of a child with a chronic illness or disability will discuss with the director the nature of child's special need to ascertain that the child can be well-served at the preschool. While we are an inclusive environment, we want to make sure that we can provide fully for your child's unique needs. While not required, medical reports or developmental evaluations will help us to provide the most appropriate instruction to your child and are beneficial to have at school. Should teachers or the director, upon observation and assessment of your child, feel that a referral is advised to a public or private entity for further developmental evaluations, the director will meet with the caregivers to discuss the process of referral and to act as the child/family advocate at any meetings/evaluations required by systems within the community. Should a child have an IEP (Individualized Education Plan), we ask that you invite the teacher/director to any initial eligibility meetings and/or annual reviews of the plan so that we can provide information necessary to help the team write the most appropriate educational goals and plan for the child. While the preschool staff will provide modifications, individualized instruction, and work to meet the educational needs of all students, there may be rare cases in which the student's needs cannot be accommodated long-term within our preschool. In such cases, the teacher and director will meet with the family to discuss the next best options for the student.

Early Arrival

The preschool offers early drop-offs for all children. Children may be brought to school at any time after 7:45 am. Single days cost \$7 per day, per child. Families will indicate interest in Early Arrival at the beginning of the school year and can schedule a "standing reservation" for the days they wish to participate. Last minute emergency drop-offs should be requested by

messaging the director via Brightwheel and will be honored if the Early Arrival class can stay within the required student to teacher ratio. Early Arrival groups are divided by age (0-2 years and 3-5 years). Early arrival participation is invoiced at the end of the month and is due in full at the end of the following month. Termination of access to the service may be considered for fees not paid by the due date.

Arrival and Departure Times

The school day begins at 9:00 am. Unless families have paid for Early Arrival, they may not enter the building until the flag is displayed at 9 am. At 9:00 am, a welcome flag is displayed at the Guilford Avenue entrance to indicate children may enter the building. The director or designated teacher is at the Guilford Avenue Entrance to help children out of cars and into the building. The “carline” option is offered to Twos, Threes and PreK. Families will be given a sign to place on their visor or dash to show upon arrival/departure with the child’s name to make the process more efficient and safer. Parents are welcome to walking children into the building if they choose not to use the portico entrance. Families are asked to NOT park in the portico entrance and then walk their children into the school. Please park in the small lot next to the building or on the street. Please do not exit your car if using the portico entrance unless you are buckling a child on the driver’s side of the car door. Parents of infants, toddlers, and Transitions age children (under 2) should use the Mendenhall Street entrance (unless you have an older child) for arrivals and departures. Children should be picked up promptly at the end of their school day. In case of an emergency, a call (or Brightwheel message) to the school is a reassurance for the child and a courtesy to the staff. A late fee of \$5 is due with tuition if a parent is more than five minutes late, the late fee will be billed to Brightwheel.

Inclement Weather

We follow Guilford County Schools’ decision on closing for inclement weather most often. We will announce school closures via Brightwheel as quickly as possible after Guilford County Schools decides. When Guilford County Schools operates on a two-hour delay, we come to school at 10 am. If Guilford County Schools closes early, we will decide based on the time the school system decides to close. Parents may pick up children at any time when safety is a concern. Should the preschool or church building experience flooding, power outages, or other unforeseen events, parents will be notified individually by your teachers. Make-up days for inclement weather may be offered on teacher workdays or at the end of the year. Parents will be informed of changes as they occur, please monitor Brightwheel closely for more information.

Safety & Security

At First Baptist Church Greensboro Preschool, our highest aim above any social, play or academic goal is for your child to be safe and happy in our care. Nothing is more important than seeing your child thrive in our environment and grow into exactly who God created them to be. Procedures and policies that are in place to protect your children include:

1. At least two teachers are always placed with children. This policy keeps our staff to child ratios low, protects us in emergency situations and prevents accidents from occurring due to constant supervision. Our teachers take turns with bathroom breaks while children are playing outside so teachers from other classrooms can help and supervise children.
2. We utilize accident reports anytime a bruise, insect bite, bite, cut, or scrape occurs at school. Due to the developing motor skills of children, minor accidents of all kinds do occur despite our teachers and administration's vigilant nature. We notify parents immediately about these concerns through a personal phone call/text message plus an accident report. Sometimes bruises or minor cuts might not appear to us at the close of the school day. Other times, we might not see the exact moment a child fell while running on the playground or bumped into a bookshelf because they don't cry while we are changing a diaper or helping another child.
3. We have an open-door policy. Meaning our classroom doors are always open unless we are practicing a safety drill. Families are also encouraged to get a key fob so they can come and go as needed. We encourage family participation as families are able during special events in the classrooms and other locations. We seek to always remain accessible and approachable.
4. Our staff is experienced, many with advanced degrees. They participate in staff meetings and professional development where best practices are discussed and modeled. We discuss gentle, child-centered teaching, and best classroom management practices. We work hard to honor the special individual God made your child to be.
5. We create an environment where a parent or family member should never be afraid to express concern or questions. Classroom teachers and administration are ALWAYS open to discussions and conferences, so we are a united front for the best school experience for your child.

Each child should have the approved pickup section of Brightwheel completed with pictures of approved pickups, if possible. Staff will ask for photo identification otherwise to verify that your child can be picked up by the approved individual. Children arriving after 9:10 am, should be accompanied to the classroom by the parent. Doors to the preschool are always locked and the playgrounds are locked from the outside. Parents (and other authorized family members) can purchase key fobs for \$20, that is theirs for the duration of their child's time at preschool. Preschool fobs are turned off at the conclusion of your time with First Baptist Preschool, no deposit refund will be given, and families will be charged \$20 for each new key fob required.

Appropriate Attire

Comfortable clothes suitable for both indoor and outdoor play are the best choices for school. Clothing should be easy for children to remove for toileting. Although children wear paint shirts for art projects, there is no guarantee that paint will not encounter a child's clothing or skin. Children should wear to school only those clothes which parents do not mind being soiled. All coats and sweaters should be labeled with the child's name. The school is not responsible for lost articles of clothing. Children will play outside daily, unless the temperature reaches 40 degrees Fahrenheit or other weather conditions are too hazardous for outdoor play (i.e. rain, extreme heat, heavy wind, snow, poor air quality, etc.). Coats or sweaters should be sent with children during colder weather months. Because our playgrounds have mulch and because the children will be doing various forms of gross motor play throughout their day, tennis shoes or closed toe, solid shoes are required. Other forms of footwear reduce your child's safety and impair their ability to fully participate in activities during the school day. Crocs and/or other open toed shoes are not allowed unless a sensory need is met in wearing these types of shoes.

What to Bring to School

Every child should bring an open-top tote bag or child-sized backpack (large enough to fit a folder, not the small "PreK" size) to school each day. The bag should be clearly marked with the child's name. A large enough bag ensures your child's items can all fit with anything they bring home from school (artwork, important paperwork, etc.).

Each child should have a seasonally appropriate change of clothing, including underwear, socks and shoes in a plastic bag marked with the child's name. The bag of clothing will remain in the bottom of the child's bag. Children should NOT bring any toys to school unless directed by the teacher.

Lunch and Snack

Families send a bagged lunch daily with a water bottle and healthy snack. **We are a nut-free facility to protect several children with nut related allergies in our program.** Our staff is happy to provide various alternatives to nut foods upon request. A child's lunch box, snack and water bottle should be clearly labeled to ensure everyone receives their own lunch. Bottles and jars for children under twelve months should be individually marked with a child's name. Apart from Infant and Toddler classes, no child should bring food or drink to school in glass bottles or containers. Glass containers pose a threat to other children and staff should they break in the classroom.

Birthday and Special Snacks

We love celebrating birthdays at First Baptist Weekday School! Each class has special birthday traditions and teachers will communicate these traditions before birthdays occur in the classroom. All food shared for special days should be store bought so ingredients can be labeled. All food purchased should be nut-free and processed in a nut-free facility. Our staff is

happy to share vendors from which such food can be purchased. If families wish to celebrate birthdays with children from school off-campus, invitations cannot be distributed at school unless ALL children in a particular class are invited. A family contact list will be distributed at the beginning of the year with a list of email addresses (family consent required), so families can mail invitations or email other parents should they only want to invite certain children.