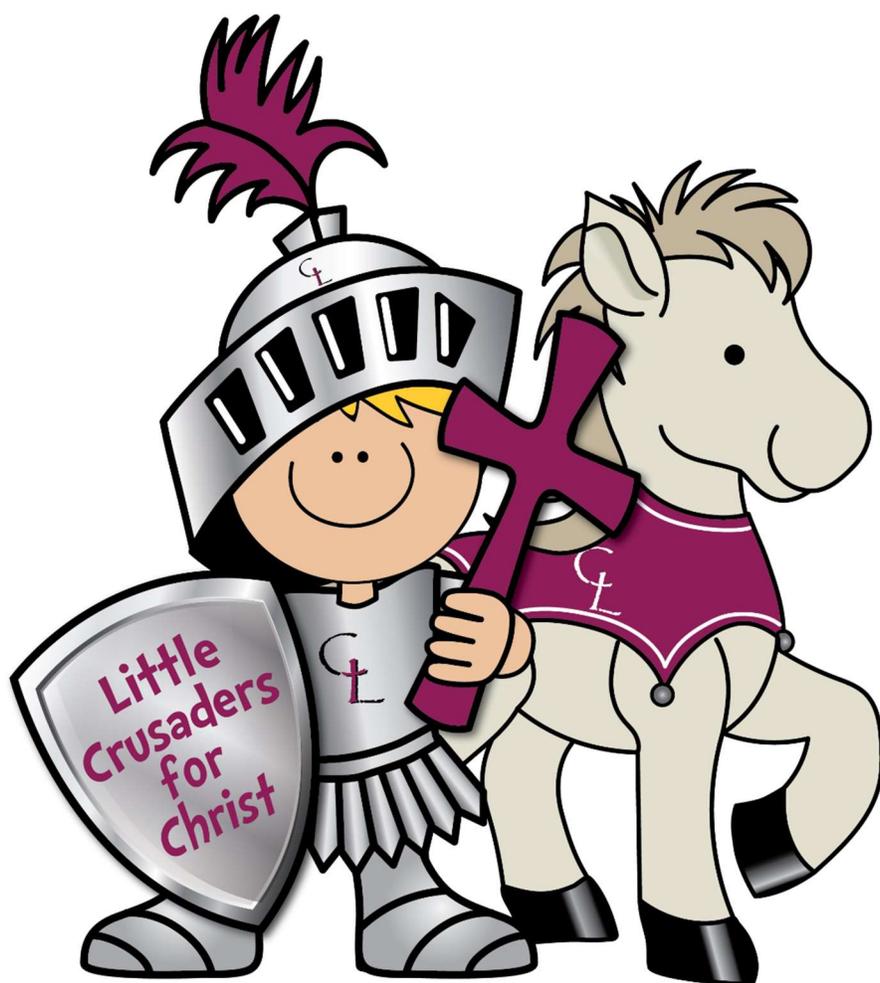


**2025-2026**  
**CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**  
**PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK**



**820 W. Imperial Highway, Brea, CA 92821**

**Phone: (714) 529-0892**

**Website: [www.CLSBrea.com](http://www.CLSBrea.com)**

**Email: [Preschool@CLSBrea.com](mailto:Preschool@CLSBrea.com)**



## WELCOME

We welcome you and your children to the preschool of Christ Lutheran Church and School, and we pray that our Lord and Savior may bless our efforts as we work together for the spiritual and academic training of your children.

We thank you for selecting our preschool and we pledge to you our support and cooperation. We are aware of our great responsibility to care for and nurture the minds and bodies of children – people precious to you, to us, and especially to our Savior.

Our school year theme is “Make a Joyful Noise” and comes from Psalm 98, *“Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. **Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn—shout for joy before the Lord, the King. Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.”***



We look forward to a school year full of encouragement and positive experiences for our entire preschool family. God’s Blessings to you all!

## FOREWARD

This handbook serves as a contract, and it communicates the philosophy and goals of our Christ-centered preschool. It also sets forth standards, rules and procedures that will foster self-discovery and facilitate a positive learning environment. It will change and grow as our school changes and grows. This handbook/contract is designed to foster mutual understanding between the school and the parents.

Our board members, administrators, faculty, and staff are intent on providing a program that is purposeful and effective. As parents, you are our partners. Our handbook assists us in accepting the responsibility of ministering to children. It is dedicated to the honor and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ, as we work together for His kingdom.

## OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL’S MISSION & MINISTRY STATEMENT

The mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to be a caring community that celebrates, nurtures, teaches, and equips for a Christian life. Christ Lutheran School exists to provide a Christ centered atmosphere for learning, assisting families in fulfilling their responsibility of bringing up children in the Lord.

## OUR VISION

### **PARTNER, PREPARE AND PROCLAIM.**

At Christ Lutheran School we aim to **partner** with families to train up children in the way they should go, **prepare** children for the challenges of today & tomorrow, and **proclaim** the gospel message of Jesus Christ in everything we do.

## OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our Philosophy statement is rooted in Proverbs 22:6, *“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.”*

At Christ Lutheran Preschool we strive to reach the children and their families with God’s love as they learn that Jesus loves them, and He is their very best friend. We work together with parents by offering opportunities and experiences to help each child grow spiritually, physically, academically, emotionally, creatively, cognitively, and socially at his or her own pace. Our

words, activities, and songs are focused on nurturing a life-long relationship with Christ as well as preparing each child for the next level of education and developing a love of learning. Our Christ-centered staff provides a fun-filled, safe environment where each child feels secure and loved. We remind our students continually of God's love for each of them as He daily forgives our sins and as we all grow together in our love for Jesus. At Christ Lutheran Preschool we aim to partner with families to train up children in the way they should go, prepare children for challenges of today and tomorrow, and proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in all we do.

*Christ Lutheran Preschool is considered a full part of the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church's ministry and mission. At the preschool, the children always come first—before planned curriculum, before rules and before adult convenience. The goal of the program is to work with each and every child's natural development and to support the emerging self within. We believe that learning happens in relationships and that this happens best in relationships which are characterized by personal respect and caring responsiveness in a Christian environment. This respect is carried through interactions between staff and children, staff and parents, and staff relationships with each other. We believe children learn best in an environment that motivates them and gives them the desire to learn. We also believe that "curriculum" is all that happens to the child while he/she is at preschool and every moment of the day as well as each child's interaction with staff, parents, and other children. Play with a purpose is the primary vehicle of "curriculum" as we feel that playing is a young child's most valuable learning tool and is the way in which children gain self-awareness, learn to handle peer interactions, solve problems, and master skills. In addition, the preschool strives to help strengthen parents' skills and supports them in their desire to have strong Christian families.*

### **OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT**



Christ Lutheran Preschool has been established to assist parents in their task of parenting. We seek to serve the parents of the congregation and community by offering a wide variety of growth experiences in an atmosphere of acceptance and Christian love regardless of race or creed. We offer Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten, as well as before and after school care for working parents.

Christ Lutheran Church is committed to a Christ-centered and excellent preschool as the best preparation for kindergarten and elementary school. Our efforts focus on the whole child with emphasis on the spiritual, physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of young children in a safe and nurturing environment. Christ Lutheran Preschool is an available arm of a Bible-based congregation that worships, equips and reaches out to all people in our community and does so in an atmosphere of healing and care.

## **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL ORGANIZATION**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The church's Board of Directors is the governing body of both the church and the school. This board is comprised of members of Christ Lutheran Church and selected by the voter's assembly to facilitate the operation of the church and its ministries.

### **BOARD OF SCHOOL MINISTRIES**

The Board of School Ministries is the governing body of the school. The chairperson is selected by the voter's assembly. The school board is comprised of members of Christ Lutheran Church selected by the chairperson to facilitate the operation of the school.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

As one of our church's ministries for children, the preschool is under the general supervision of the Principal of Christ Lutheran's elementary school. The Co-Directors are responsible for the day-to-day operation of Christ Lutheran Preschool.

### **FACULTY**

The Preschool teachers are employed by Christ Lutheran Church and accountable to the Board of School Ministries. They are teaching ministers of the church. All faculty members have earned or are working toward either an Associate of Arts degree or certificate in Early Childhood Education. They strive to continue their knowledge of early childhood education through workshops, seminars, professional development and other hands-on training.

Our teachers are the main strength of the school. Their Christian instruction and guidance are a ministry to children and parents. They teach and evaluate, plan and prepare, relate and counsel, pray and care. Their communications with parents are keys to effective education. We pray for them, support their decisions and give them our respect, love and encouragement.

## **PARENT-TEACHER LEAGUE (P.T.L.)**

Parents or guardians of Christ Lutheran students are automatically members of the P.T.L. Many hours are donated by volunteers of the P.T.L. towards making Christ Lutheran the best possible school for our children. The P.T.L. is extensively involved in raising funds for school needs. Through their fundraising efforts, they have provided much-needed equipment, furnishings, supplies and technology. We are extremely proud of their well-organized efforts.



## **ADMISSION, FINANCIAL POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

### **CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL ADMISSION POLICIES & REQUIREMENTS**

Our school is open to all who desire a Christian preschool education for their children.

- A. Christ Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded to students at the school. There is no discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs.
- B. Every student admitted into Christ Lutheran Preschool is given an adjustment/grace period. All enrollments are on a conditional basis dependent upon:
  - 1) the child's conduct.
  - 2) the child's willingness to learn/work/share.
  - 3) parental cooperation
  - 4) potty-training in progress, if not completed

*If at any point during the school year we observe and document dangerous or A-typical developmental progress, it will be brought to the parents' attention. This also applies to children having continuous "potty" accidents. Depending on the situation, we may recommend additional resources or direct families to the appropriate resources/programs within our community. Christ Lutheran Preschool reserves the right to deny re-enrollment or remove students from the school if we are unable to help provide the appropriate services needed, or if the particular behavior continues.*

- C. Children must be at least 2 years old by their first day, through 6 years old, and potty-training must be in progress. (See section on Potty Training)
- D. Children are placed into classes with their peers based primarily upon their birthdate and secondarily upon their developmental and academic level. Class sizes are limited by teacher to child ratio (1:12 or better) and the square footage of our facility.
- E. Changes of a child from one preschool class to another will only be allowed with the approval of the Co-Directors.
- F. If the child shares time between two homes, Christ Lutheran Preschool will require registration information from both parties, based on each individual situation and court documents.
- G. We require a copy of custody agreements to be always kept in your child's file. *Christ Lutheran Preschool will enforce or follow the visitation or child custody agreement that is produced by the court system. This will include calling the custodial parent in the event of an illness or non-emergency. When an emergency situation arises with the child or if there is a behavioral issue, both parties will be notified.*
- H. For the most successful school experience, all preschool students will undergo a two-week observation period to assess their readiness. This is to ensure the children are placed in the proper classrooms for their optimal learning experiences. Based on the two-week trial and assessment period, children may or may not be able to continue in a specific class. A conference with the parents/guardians will be required where the proper placement will be discussed. Christ Lutheran reserves the right to stop the application process, deny applications if the school/classrooms are at capacity, or refuse admission/service to a student if the school deems that Christ Lutheran Preschool is not the best fit for the child.
- I. All applications pertain to one school year/full term and are to be renewed annually. School enrollment/tuition does not cover holiday breaks or summer. *(Traditionally our school year runs from mid-August through late May.)*
- J. When registration for enrollment for the next school year begins, priority is given to children of staff members, returning students, siblings of current students and church members for a short period before registration of new students.
- K. Registration will not be accepted for any family whose account is not current.
- L. The child's birth certificate and age-appropriate immunization record must be presented at the time of enrollment.
- M. **Completion of state forms and information is required before children begin school.**

### **PRIORITY RE-ENROLLMENT**

Students who are enrolled in the preschool have an opportunity for priority enrollment for the following year. Priority registration for returning students begins in February of the current school year and is exclusive to returning families for two weeks only. To re-enroll, you must go into your existing Gradelink account and complete the re-enrollment process there by the priority registration deadline along with submitting a non-refundable registration fee. All forms must be filled out completely and all immunizations must be up to date to begin school. Once the priority re-enrollment period has ended, we will open the remaining class spots to the public during "Open Enrollment." We are not responsible for holding spots for current Christ Lutheran Preschool students who did not go through the priority re-enrollment process, or for holding spots for families who do not respond or follow the appropriate timeline/application/payment processes.

### **PRESCHOOL ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

- A. Health records required:
  1. Physician's Report – Child Care Centers (LIC701)
  2. Age-appropriate immunizations (ages 0-5)
    - a) 4 DTaP
    - b) 3 Polio
    - c) 3 Hepatitis B
    - d) 1 MMR (on or after the first birthday)
    - e) 1 Hib (on or after the first birthday)
    - f) 1 Varicella (or documentation from physician that child has had chickenpox).
    - g) Mantoux tuberculosis (TB) skin test (within the last six months if new student), *or report from child's doctor indicating that no risk-factors are present.*
- B. Completed personal information forms for the child, which include a developmental health history, emergency information, birth certificate and applicable preschool and state forms (LIC 700, 701, 702, 613A, 627, 995).

*Please note: Files and immunizations must be kept up to date. When you move or change a phone number, you must let the school office know immediately so we can update your child's file. Files are examined by the state caseworker periodically and if that person deems fit, he/she can terminate the enrollment of any student whose file is not complete and up to date.*

### **PRESCHOOL TUITION AND FEES**

- Our tuition rate is per school year, per student and covers Fall, Winter and Spring (mid-August through the end of May). Tuition can be spread evenly over 10 months. You will be billed through your school account in FACTS. Payment arrangements must be made through the school office, *before* each school year begins.
- Staff Professional Development days happen throughout the school year and there will be no regular classes available on these days. These can be found on the Preschool calendar. Extended Day Care (EDC) will be available on these dates and are **NOT** included in your tuition. *If you need care on these dates, your FACTS account will be billed @ \$7.00 per hour of extended day care used.*
- Holiday breaks are **NOT** included in your tuition. *If you need care on these dates, your FACTS account will be billed @ \$7.00 per hour of extended day care used.*
- Summer Camp tuition is **NOT** included. More information on Summer Camp will be available in April each year.

### **EXTENDED DAY CARE:**

Christ Lutheran provides before and after school extended day care (EDC) for children enrolled in our school.

- The hours of operation are before and after class time, between 7:00-8:00am and 3:00-6:00pm.
- Preschool EDC is billed at the conclusion of each month at \$7.00 per hour used.
- Children picked up *AFTER 6:00pm* will incur additional charges.

### **PROGRAM CHANGES AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

Changes of program are allowed under certain circumstances and are considered and approved/denied by the Co-Directors. If space is available, the school may allow a program change:

- A child enrolls for a full term/school year. If he/she must be withdrawn for a valid reason, we require two-week's written notice.
- Parents are obligated to pay tuition charges for the remainder of that current month.
- Any tuition refunds will be at the discretion of the Co-Directors, principal and/or the Board of School Ministries.
- Because our program and licensing requirements require us to staff based upon the number of children enrolled, tuition dollars will not be refunded for holidays, illnesses, vacations, or any other absences.
- The option of withdrawal with two weeks' notice is not allowed after April 1<sup>st</sup>. *If a student is withdrawn after April 1<sup>st</sup>, the parent is nonetheless obligated to pay the tuition for the remainder of the school year.*

## HOURS, ROUTINES AND ATTENDANCE

When people live and work together, they need certain basic guidelines within which to operate harmoniously. The following basic school guidelines have been developed so that students and teachers can live and work together in an atmosphere conducive to a good teaching-learning environment.



### PRESCHOOL HOURS

Preschool Class Times:	8:15am- 11:30am
Lunch, Outside and Nap Time:	11:30am-3:00pm
Extended Day Care:	7:00am-8:00am and 3:00pm-6:00pm
School Office:	8:00am- 3:30pm

Please be considerate when emailing, calling, or texting your child's teacher. Teachers do not have access to their computers, tablets, or cell phones while they are actively with the children. They will check their messages when it is appropriate. Please do not call, email, or text them after 7:00pm and if you do, they have the right to decide whether to respond.

### DAILY ROUTINE

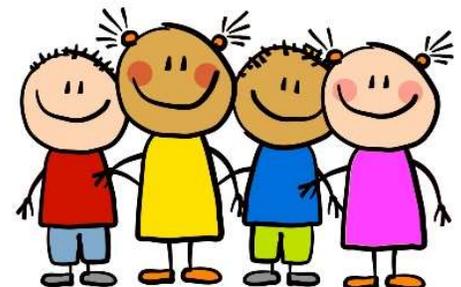
Our daily classroom schedule offers a balance between teacher-directed and child-choice activities. The developmentally appropriate curriculum includes daily creative art activities, children's literature, music, dramatic play, science, sensory play, and large motor activities. We promote "hands-on" learning through self-initiated activity. Our teachers serve as facilitators while the children create and explore engaging learning activities.

Our program encompasses the education of the whole child, which includes the child's physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, creative, and social skills. We use Concordia Publishing House's "One In Christ" religion curriculum, along with "Little Lambs," and "Enduring Faith." "Handwriting Without Tears" for writing, literacy and math curriculum, "Heggerty" for phonics, "Pocket of Preschool" curriculum as well as teacher chosen curriculum to match age-appropriateness and monthly and weekly themes. The children hear Bible stories each day, attend Chapel each week, pray often-especially before snacks and lunch.

A positive approach is used in building the children's self-esteem in a relaxed and loving atmosphere. We encourage acceptable social behavior and a spirit of cooperation.

### BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

- A. Each preschool child is to be walked to his/her classroom when you arrive, by a parent or responsible adult (age 18 or older) and signed in on our iPad or clipboard.
- B. Class time is very important to the children and their teachers; therefore, please be on time as any interruptions should be avoided.
- C. State licensing requires that each child is signed in and out of class by their parent/guardian each day.
  - 1) Our primary way of doing this is on an iPad using ProCare. Parent/Guardian of each child needs to search for the child's name. Authorized adults are in the program and the person dropping off or picking up needs to locate their name and then follow the prompts. Please DO NOT sign in any additional children you may have this way, only the preschoolers.
  - 2) Sometimes technology fails us and then we will use clipboards for our sign in and out procedures. A parent/guardian must print their first and last name, then sign with their legal signature and indicate the time they are dropping off the child. The same routine is repeated upon picking up the child. Only adults listed in the child's enrollment and emergency documents may pick up the child. If the signature is not legible, the person will be called to return to the school to sign again.
  - 3) Children should NEVER be allowed to use the iPad to help sign themselves in.
- D. If you are sending someone to pick up your child, different than your normal routine, please send us a message on Procare or *please notify the school office ahead of time*. This person MUST be included on your emergency forms ahead of time, or you will need to fill out a form in the office prior to your child being released.
- E. We will check the identification of each person picking up a child if they are unfamiliar to our staff. Please advise anyone picking up your child that they will need to carry proper identification with them.
- F. NEVER leave your child in a classroom or on the playground unsupervised!  
NEVER let your child use a restroom unsupervised.



- G. Children’s restroom doors are to remain *open and always unlocked*. Do not close the door if you take your child to the restroom.
- H. Please see a staff member for directions to an available adult restroom if one is needed.
- I. Children arriving before their classroom opens will need to go to Extended Day Care (EDC) if their parent/guardian cannot wait until class time at 8:00am. The child must be signed in using the sign-in procedures already listed in this handbook.
- J. Please be on time when picking up your child when his/her day ends. Please call the office if an emergency prevents you from picking up at your usual time so we can comfort your child if they are upset with the change.
- K. Please leave the classroom or playground after dropping off your child to ease any separation anxiety. The teachers have experienced all situations and can manage children with separation issues.

### **SECURED CAMPUS AND GATE CARDS**

We have a secured campus. Gates or locked doors protect all entrances onto our campus. Video monitoring happens from the moment you arrive on the property. Entrance onto our campus is allowed at the church and school offices only. “Ring” doorbells are at each entrance and monitored by staff. Gate transmitter cards are available to preschool families for the duration of their time at our preschool. This enables parents and guardians to enter through the main school gate to pick up and drop off their children. A “contract” is signed before a gate card is issued and the following rules apply:

- The gate card(s) must be returned to the Preschool Director when moving on to our Jr. K, Kindergarten, or leaving for another school.
- There is no charge for the first card issued.
- Additional cards are available for \$20.00 each.
- A non-return fee of \$50.00 will be incurred for any cards not returned after leaving our preschool.
- Any lost or stolen cards will incur a \$50.00 replacement fee.
- Please notify the school office immediately if your card is missing.

### **SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY POLICY**

The following policy, regarding civil liberties and Biblical standards addressing sexuality, is designed to ensure that Christ Lutheran Church and School operates in a manner consistent with the Word of God. Our policies are rooted in the Bible because we believe the Bible is the inspired written Word of God and are in line with the doctrine of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

Our understanding of human sexuality begins with our belief that each human being is created in the image of God as either male or female (Genesis 5:1-2), a biological sex and gender encoded genetically and manifested physiologically before birth. In addressing each other, we will only recognize pronouns of him and her based on the biological sex and gender of a person at birth.

We also believe that sin has brought brokenness and corruption to the created order. This, at times, has caused disorder and confusion regarding gender identity and/or sexual attraction. God calls us to “love one another” (John 13:34-35) despite the brokenness and pain of our sinful world. However, despite sin and its consequences, we seek to honor the created order of “male” or “female” as defined above from conception.

We also believe marriage is the union of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24). All sexual activity is to take place within that God-given boundary of marriage. The family units thus formed on these principles provide the foundation for civil society.

We also believe in God's transformational grace and love (Romans 12:2), who, in love, sent His Son Jesus to give His life on a cross and rise from the dead. The power of Jesus’ grace and resurrection can bring healing and help to those who struggle with these issues (Ephesians 3:20).

Biological sex is either male or female. Gender is encoded genetically and manifested physiologically before birth. Students whose biological sex at birth was male will be classified as boys, and students whose biological sex at birth was female will be classified as girls. For these reasons, the following shall be in place when accessing school facilities and programs.

1. Any student enrolled at Christ Lutheran School shall, when utilizing a multiple-occupancy restroom, utilize the facility corresponding to that student’s biological sex, as recorded on the student’s original birth certificate, (ordained at birth).
  - a. Nothing herein shall prohibit the school from designing or designating restroom facilities for use by one person at a time. Such facilities may be designated for use by both sexes.
  - b. Nothing herein shall prohibit a person entering a restroom designated for use by a particular sex:

- i. For custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes.
  - ii. For rendering medical or emergency assistance.
  - iii. For accompanying a person needing assistance; or
  - iv. Where a facility has been temporarily designated for use by individuals of the opposite sex as defined herein.
2. Any student enrolled in Christ Lutheran Church and School shall, when participating in an athletic program offered by the school, participate on the team that corresponds with the student's biological sex, as recorded on the student's original birth certificate, except that a biologically female student may seek to qualify to participate on a male team if a female team is not available for that sport. Exceptions will also be made if a co-ed team is needed to be formed for the school to participate in a sport during a particular season.
  3. Students will not be addressed by a pronoun or a description that does not align to their biological sex at birth.
  4. When traveling on overnight field trips, students will stay in accommodations with students of the same biological sex at birth.
  5. In circumstances when students are divided by gender for class activities, they will be classified by their biological sex at birth.

Our school believes, teaches, and confesses the unchanging truth of Holy Scripture, subscribes to the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of the Word of God. We believe that all statements, policies, and procedures must be Christ-centered, biblically based, and in concert with both the Great Commission (Go and make disciples of all nations. Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandment (A new command I give to you, that you love one another... John 13:34) given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that all children benefit from a Christian education. Following Jesus' direction in Mark 10:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these," we promise to provide this education to the best of our ability--God enabling and empowering us to do so. To that end, we promise that our pastors, teachers, and staff will teach, embody, and live in a manner consistent with the Christ-centered, biblically based beliefs of Christ Lutheran Church and School.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance helps a child to make a smooth adjustment to school. Please bring your child to school on time every day he/she is enrolled and feeling well. If your child is sick and not attending school, please send us a message through Procure or call the office because we would like to remember him/her in our prayers with the class, as well as watch classmates for symptoms.

## **PARENT PARTICIPATION, CONFERENCES, CALENDARS & PLANNING**



### **FAMILY WORSHIP**

While Christ Lutheran Church has provided the preschool to aid parents in providing for the Christian education of the child, *this does not remove the God-given responsibility of parents to supply Christian training at home.* We strongly encourage parents to join the child in mealtime, morning and evening prayers, in family devotions, and regular church and Sunday school attendance. We encourage our families to take part in weekly worship, Sunday school and adult Bible studies.

***If your child is singing at one of our church services, we do ask that you commit to staying for the entire service. While we understand many families have different home churches, it is disruptive when families get up and leave once their child is done singing.***

If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to consider Christ Lutheran Church. While we encourage families to worship together, optional nursery care is provided during morning services and Sunday School for children under the age of 5, Sunday school for children ages 3-18 is offered at 9:15am, with adult Bible studies offered at the same time. Christ Lutheran offers a traditional worship service on Sundays at 8:00am as well as a contemporary worship service at 10:30am. There are a variety of Bible studies available during the week for women, men, families, and seniors, as well as in-home studies. In addition, *new membership classes, classes on Lutheran theology and Baptism opportunities are available throughout the year to all preschool children and their families.* If you would like further information about any of the items listed, as well as devotions, church services or Bible classes, feel free to talk with any of the teachers or contact the church office at (714) 529-2984.

During the school year, your child will receive religious instruction based on the teachings of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. You as a parent need to be informed of what your child is learning. For more information on “What We Believe,” please speak to any staff member or go to: <http://www.lcms.org/belief-and-practice>



### **PARENT-TEACHER LEAGUE**

The Parent-Teacher League program is a program in which parents and school staff work together to provide the best education for the school children. Staff and parents of all children from preschool through eighth grade are members and involvement is encouraged. Meetings are held periodically, and various extraordinary events are sponsored. Please support our PTL. There is no fee to join.

Parents or guardians of Christ Lutheran students are automatically members of the P.T.L. Many hours are donated by volunteers of the P.T.L. towards making Christ Lutheran the best possible school for our children. The P.T.L. is extensively involved in raising funds for school needs. Through their fundraising efforts, they have provided much-needed equipment, furnishings, supplies and technology. We are extremely proud of their well-organized efforts.

### **VOLUNTEERING**

Our preschool is here to partner with parents. We value our parents and want to make them a part of their child’s education. In the best interest/safety of each child, and to comply with state licensing regulations, we closely monitor volunteers and have strict guidelines for classroom volunteers. *Volunteers must have current immunizations on file in the preschool office including influenza, pertussis, and measles. An influenza immunization is also required, unless a declination form has been signed.* For parents wishing to volunteer in classrooms on a regular basis, fingerprinting is required and there is a fee (approx. \$100) to have this done. Please see the Co-Directors if this is something you want to do.

Each parent is encouraged to become involved in our school and take part in occasional school activities. Please keep in close communication with your child’s teacher, check emails from the school and your child’s teacher, read the notices sent home, and peruse the parent information board or other posted signs and flyers and the school website. In this way you will be aware of upcoming events and opportunities for participation.

The preschool offers the opportunity for parents to volunteer in several different areas. Major volunteer opportunities include assisting with major fundraisers or becoming a room parent. If you are looking for a smaller commitment and have a special talent such as puppetry, playing a musical instrument, singing, cooking, etc., or if you work in a field that interests children (fire fighter, police officer, doctor, veterinarian, dentist, etc.) we welcome and encourage you to share it with the children by letting the teacher know! We also encourage parents to share their heritage and cultural background with the children (through special recipes, dress/costumes, songs, languages, stories, and pictures). We appreciate our parents as a resource and welcome you to share with us!

### **COMMUNICATION**

Our Preschool primarily uses flyers sent home, messages through ProCare and emails from the school and newsletters from individual teachers to maintain communication with our families. Please be sure to enter your most frequently checked email addresses into your Gradelink and Procure accounts and be sure to keep your primary phone number up to date in Procure and Gradelink to ensure that school messages will get to you in a timely manner! Add these free apps to your phone.

We encourage our preschool families to check our school’s website CLSBrea.com frequently for other information not found in the previously mentioned forms of communication. Our staff is always available to answer questions at any time! Please be sure to add any email addresses with regards to our school to your address book to be sure not to miss important information! Emails are sent from the office staff, preschool, principal, technology coordinator, DCE, etc. All addresses of the church/school will be from CLSBrea.com or christbrea.org.

Christ Lutheran Church's website is [ChristBrea.org](http://ChristBrea.org) and you can find links to the school page there. Our church and school have several social media pages to follow. Please go to <https://linktr.ee/christbrea> to get connected!



### **CLASSROOM VISITS & PARENT CONFERENCES**

Prior to the start of each new school year, the preschool holds a Meet Your Teacher Day. We have found that this early visit can help children to adjust to school by familiarizing them with the classroom environment. It is also nice for them to know that there will be at least one familiar, friendly face on that first day of school. This is always a suitable time for the parent to familiarize themselves with the preschool environment with their child. It can be called an informal "orientation." Class schedules, updated yearly calendars, room parent sign-ups, and volunteer lists will be distributed, and the preschool staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Formal parent-teacher conferences happen twice per school year. If there is ever a need to hold a conference at other times, that can be arranged. Each child that is registered to attend Christ Lutheran's Kindergarten for the following school year will also undergo testing to determine readiness, prior to the second conference date. Conferencing is an ideal way for parents and teachers to communicate and work together for the good of the child. Conferences for our youngest children are also available. Please talk to your child's teacher at any time.

### **PARENT INITIATED INQUIRIES**

If you have questions or concerns, our teachers are available to meet with parents to discuss their child's progress at any mutually agreed upon time.

- Teachers may be contacted privately via their work email, and often this is their preferred method of communication.
- Non-urgent telephone messages will be given to the teacher when they are no longer supervising children, either during a break or at the end of their shift. The teacher will make every effort to return your call that same day.
- Parents wishing to drop in before or after school to talk to a teacher unannounced should realize that the teacher's time may already be spoken for with students or other commitments. Should this occur, the teacher may ask to schedule a different time to address your concern so they can give you and their class their full attention.
- Our Co-Directors are also teachers and therefore they will address "non-urgent Co-Director related issues" after they have completed their teaching day, after 1:00pm. Thank you for your understanding.

### **CALENDAR/HOLIDAY EDC**

Our school year traditionally follows our fellow Lutheran schools in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's Pacific Southwest District. We also try to closely follow the calendar for the local school districts. That being stated, our school year traditionally starts in mid-August and ends after Memorial Day in May. The preschool calendar closely coincides with the calendar of Christ Lutheran School, i.e., holidays, Christmas and Easter breaks, conferences, Professional Development and teacher in-service days. *Childcare may or may not be offered on these dates. While we want to help our families with day care needs as much as possible, the preschool administration does reserve the right to cancel planned extended care dates if a minimum number of students is not reached.* Please refer to the printed calendar or contact the preschool office for dates of planned closures and holiday breaks.

### **VISITORS/OBSERVING**

All visitors to the campus must check in at the school office and sign in for a visitor's badge.

1. If you want to observe a specific *activity*, please check with the teacher for what time is best to do so.
2. If you would like to observe a classroom for up to ten minutes, we welcome drop-ins at any time, please check into the school office for a visitor badge first.
3. We have an open-door policy for our parents/guardians. You may drop in, unannounced at any time.
4. If you have a talent, traditional custom, or occupation that might interest preschoolers, please consider sharing that with us! We love special presentation days! Speak to the Co-Directors if this is something you'd like to help us with.

Regarding visitors picking up your child: When sending someone to pick up your child other than the parent or authorized adult, please notify the school office ahead of time. A driver's license or identification card check will be required before we release the child with the person picking up. This person's information MUST match what the parent has authorized on forms in our school office before we release your child.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

All students must be formally photographed for their cumulative files but purchasing picture packages is the decision of each individual family. Information will be sent home regarding this about 1-2 weeks before picture day. Photos are taken all year

long for student portfolios, our school yearbook, classroom projects and advertising purposes. Enrollment of your child at Christ Lutheran Preschool is your permission that your child may be photographed during normal daycare hours, field trips or activities. Understand that these photographs may be used in school newsletters or displayed within the center, our website, social media, newsletters or any other signage or publication. Your child's personal information will never be released to the public, apart from their name under their photo in the yearbook. The yearbook is only given to those students that purchase one.

## HEALTH, SAFETY, WELLNESS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### CHILD ILLNESS

Good health is important. Your child should be in good mental and physical health to attend preschool. Parents should keep their children home from school if any unusual symptoms of illness occur. Sometimes you may be uncertain as to whether your child should attend school because he/she has been ill. In general, your child should/will be asked to stay home or should not attend school if he/she has:

- A runny nose (clear is okay)
- Persistent cough
- Sore throat
- Swollen neck glands
- A fever (100.4 or above)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Red eyes or a discharge from the eyes
- Been acting listlessly, drowsy, has a flushed face or a lack of appetite.
- Recently suffered a serious injury (doctor's note required to return to school)
- Any behavior that is out of the ordinary
- Any kind of rash, hives, etc.
- Vomited or has had diarrhea within 24 hours prior to school attendance.



Please call the school office if your child will not be in school due to illness. If a child becomes ill during the school day, he/she will be removed from the classroom and the parents will be contacted to take the child home. We require children to be picked up within 30-60 minutes of the school making contact.

We are more than happy to administer medicine to your child when needed. Please note the following:

- Medicines must be handed directly to a teacher, and we have a form for the parent to fill out instructing the staff when to give your child the medicine.
- NEVER send your child to school with medicine in their backpacks or lunch boxes. This includes vitamins and cough drops. Any item like this also needs to be left with a staff member and we have a form for the parents to fill out instructing the staff when to administer it.

After any illness, your child needs to be *without* fever or symptoms listed above for 24 hours before returning to school. When your child returns to school, they must be able to function normally in the classroom environment. Please do not give your child cough/cold or pain/fever relieving medicines before school to hide symptoms. Be upfront and honest with the staff so they know what is going on with your child and can keep an eye on them. Medicines wear-off from sick children and it becomes obvious that maybe they should not be at school that day.



## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

Please notify the Preschool office immediately if your child comes down with a contagious disease. This will allow us to send notices to all other parents so they may watch for symptoms in their own children. This includes such common, but serious childhood diseases as

- Covid 19
- Chicken Pox
- Mumps
- Measles
- Conjunctivitis
- Strep infections
- Impetigo
- Lice infestation
- Pinworms

If your child has contracted one of these serious or contagious diseases or has been treated for a broken bone or other serious injury, the attending physician will need to provide you with a doctor's note prior to your child returning to school. This note must clearly state:

1. What the child was treated for
2. That the child is now healthy (if the child was ill)
3. When the child may return to school
4. Any restrictions that the child may have.

## **PLEASE RESPECT THE HEALTH OF THE OTHER CHILDREN AND THE STAFF BY KEEPING YOUR CHILD HOME IF HE OR SHE IS ILL.**

We are sorry, but we are not equipped to handle a child with psychological or physical disabilities. This requires excessive time demands from the teachers and our organization is not prepared in staffing or physical space for the child in need. We recommend contacting Children's Home Society for assistance and referrals by calling 1-888-CHS-4KIDS (888-247-4543) or by email at [info@chs-ca.org](mailto:info@chs-ca.org).

## **ALLERGY POLICIES**

Christ Lutheran Preschool makes every effort to accommodate children with allergies. Upon acceptance of enrollment, we require the following to take place prior to the first day of school:

1. We require all families to notify the school staff and faculty of any food allergies prior to the start of school or as soon as the allergy is diagnosed.
2. For students with severe food allergies, the child may be separated at snack and lunch times for their own safety. All children will wash their hands and face after snack and lunch to ensure the safety of the child with food allergies. We are not a "nut free" facility, but accommodations will be made to keep each and every child safe at all times.
3. The preschool requires all licensing and health forms to be turned in prior to the start of school or provide a new form when a new allergy is diagnosed.
4. Any student with allergies severe enough to require the use of an "Epi-Pen," "AviQ" or administration of allergy medication is required to have all medications turned in (in their original packaging with prescription information attached) along with the appropriate paperwork before the start of school. These will be stored safely in the child's classroom (emergency backpacks that follow the children) to keep it within close contact of the child. If a child with allergies accidentally encounters an allergen, the school will follow the protocol listed:
  - a. The child will be removed from class, the parent will be notified immediately via phone after the administrative staff member has administered (Epi-Pen/AviQ, Benadryl or other allergy) medication according to the doctor's instructions on the forms provided by the parent.
  - b. The parent will be asked to pick the child up from school with the recommendation that the child be taken to their doctor or urgent care for continuation of care.
  - c. If an Epi-Pen/AviQ is administered, the paramedics (911) will be called, and the parents will be immediately notified by phone.

## **INJURIES AND ACCIDENTS**

Minor bumps and scrapes occur daily. Collisions happen in the classroom and outside the classroom. In the case of a minor injury, we will supply the parent/guardian with an "Incident/Ouch Report" which reports the details and care of the injury. Any injuries to the head, neck or face will result in an immediate courtesy call to the child's parents/guardians and a photo may be sent to the parents for determination of what happens next.

In the event a child is involved in a more serious accident at school, our office will make every effort to notify the parent as soon as possible. In case a parent cannot be reached, the parents authorize the Preschool Co-Directors to seek appropriate medical attention. Parents can feel confident that excellent care is given in our school. The staff is competent and trained to provide constant supervision and are certified in adult/child/infant CPR, first aid and AED machines.

## **BITING POLICY**

Biting can and sometimes does happen in preschool. The term “bite” is used whether there is broken or non-broken skin. Biting is not conducive to a safe and positive environment for children, and can spread infectious diseases; therefore, biting by a child of any age cannot be tolerated. We do, however, consider each biting situation individually and appropriately. Our staff will work with both the child and the family to prevent biting behaviors by assessing what led to the behavior and teaching the child alternative acceptable ways to express their anger or frustration. If the biting behavior continues, the Co-Directors will implement a policy that may include, but is not limited to, a reduction in scheduled class time, assign an additional teacher to “shadow” the child at potentially an additional cost to the family, or (after reaching the 3-bite limit), removal from the school.

## **BATHROOM POLICY**

**NOT POTTY TRAINED:** Includes a fee of \$25 per week, and this fee is to cover the cost of additional staffing provided to help non-potty-trained students, including and not limited to cleaning and sanitizing of the restroom area.

Expectations of non-potty-trained students:

- Students are not fully potty trained and will wear a Pull-Up throughout the day.
- Students must be able to communicate to the teacher about their restroom needs.
- Students will, with little to no assistance, clean and dress themselves.
- Frequency of accidents: 2 or more potty accidents a week

**POTTY TRAINED:**

Expectations of potty-trained students:

- Students must have zero accidents during the week.
- Students must be able to alert the teacher when they need to use the restroom and manage using the toilet independently.
- Students must be able to pull their clothes up and down, wipe and wash their hands independently.
- Frequency of accidents: Grace abounds! Accidents can occur from wardrobe malfunction or other reasons. The goal is that students will have zero potty accidents.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Parents/Guardians agree to ensure the child’s readiness and consistency in working on potty training at home.
- Parents/Guardians will provide feedback as needed and check-ins with staff for progress assessments.
- Two year-old children must be in process of potty-training at home. We will assist your child as needed, but for children not toilet-independent, Pull-Ups (not diapers) are allowed. Parents/Guardians will have a contract to sign and additional fees apply until the child is fully potty-trained.
- Three-to-four-year-old children attending Christ Lutheran Preschool *should be* fully potty trained and able to manage self-care in the restroom. Children should come to school wearing underwear. Children are not permitted to wear “Pull Ups” or any type of diaper to school, with the exception of nap time if the parent/guardian requests it.
- Parents/Guardians provide Pull-Ups and wipes to have on hand.
- While our teachers are available to help with the occasional difficult snap, button, belt, or pair of overalls, it is very helpful if you dress your child in pants or shorts that can be easily pulled up and down by the child without adult assistance.

We understand that accidents do occur (especially at the beginning of the school year or during nap when they are asleep). Should a potty accident occur, the teacher will assist the child by coaching them to clean themselves up and putting on new clothing. The child will be expected to dress themselves in their dry clothing. The parents will be notified using our “potty accident” form which will be attached to the bag of soiled clothing or bedding. If the child has a bowel movement and cannot change themselves, the parent will be called to either pick up the child or to change and clean them up. If more than 4 potty accidents occur in a two-week timespan, the parents will be asked to keep the child home for a 1-week period of time (tuition is not waived during this time) to potty train the child and to incorporate bathroom independence.



## **NUTRITION**

**Eating healthy is not only important for the body, but also the mind. Please make sure students come to school rested, healthy, and fed with a nutritious breakfast.**

**Breakfast:** If your child arrives prior to 7:50am, they can bring breakfast with them to eat in extended day care.

**Water:** Please be sure your child has a reusable water bottle *with their name on it* every day they attend school. Staff highly recommends that the bottle is filled with ice/water at home before coming to school. We are more than happy to fill up their individual water bottles as often as needed.

**Snack:** The children will have snack time at around 9:30am each morning and 3:30pm each afternoon. Parents/guardians provide these snacks in a marked bag, not included in the child's lunchbox. Snacks must be from two of the five food groups-fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and proteins. See [www.MyPlate.gov](http://www.MyPlate.gov) for more information on making healthy choices for your child. (Please do not send sweets for snacks. *Fruit snacks/gummies are not healthy and should be considered a treat or dessert for lunchtime.*) Some snack examples include fresh fruit or vegetables, lunch meat, cheese, yogurt or crackers. Children do not need more than 2-3 items for snack including a drink. Ice packs are required in their lunch boxes or bags.

**Lunches:** Lunches must be well-balanced and nutritious. Follow the guidelines above, except lunches MUST represent 3 of the food groups listed above. Please do not overload lunches-but we understand picky eaters need a variety of choices. An example of a lunch could be half a sandwich, or cheese, lunch meat and crackers, fruit and/or vegetables, yogurt, water, milk or juice. Thermoses with food heated up at home are allowed. Staff will encourage your child to eat their main course, followed by a healthy second choice, but it is against the child's rights for us to require them to do so. What and how much your child eats is up to them. We will not require them to eat if they don't want to. We are sorry that we cannot heat up or cook individual items for the child. Ice packs are required in their lunch boxes or bags.

No candy will be allowed-it will be sent back home in their lunch box to enjoy at home.

**CaterTots** is another lunch option available for students and staff. They prepare meals specific to what you ordered for your child. The parents/guardian register with them, and everything is handled through <https://cater tots.com/>. Your child's lunch will be delivered to the school office with their name on the box. A flyer is available at the preschool or in the main school office.

**School parties:** Any food item that is shared with the class must be brought in unopened packages listing the contents of the food items. Food brought in by a parent/guardian must be pre-approved by staff and all parents in case of allergies.



## **PLAYGROUND RULES**

Our playground rules are designed for the health and safety of all students sharing the yard. Please be aware of our rules and help us to reinforce them as necessary with your child.

- Children not registered at our preschool MAY NOT use the playground, play in the classrooms or use the children's restrooms. Our preschool is designed for children ages 2-5 ONLY.
- **Slide Use-** Climb up the ladder and slide down on bottoms only-feet first too. No going down the slide head-first. We do allow the children to climb up the slides if there are no children coming down. One child on each slide at a time.
- **Swing Use-** Stay seated in the swing. No standing or jumping from the swings. Do not walk directly in front of or behind the swings. We do allow the children to swing on their bellies.
- **Riding Toys-** Please keep bikes on the cement or bike path areas. Follow directions of arrows when riding the bikes. Please sit on bikes properly.
- **Sandbox** – Sand is to be kept inside the sandbox. Sand is never to be thrown or poured on a friend.
- **Playground Supervision** – Children may use the playground only when there is a staff member supervising the yard.
- Our playground is not open for children to play on, except when they are signed in and the responsibility of the Preschool staff. Older and younger siblings MAY NOT use our playground.



## **STANDARD OF DRESS**

Preschool is fun and full of many kinds of experiences! Since some activities can be messy, we ask that you please dress your child in comfortable play clothes that can handle paint, glue, markers, etc. Save the favorite clothes for special dress up days!

- A. Children must wear socks or tights with tennis, canvas, or other closed-toed shoes. When choosing appropriate footwear for school, please keep in mind that little toes can get bumped or run over by bikes, so sandals and "Crocs" are not the best option. If "Crocs" are worn, the back strap must be in place on the heel. Boots and "Uggs" are not appropriate for the playground and therefore should not be worn to school.

- B. When sending jackets and sweaters to school, please make sure to label them clearly with your child's name.
- C. Girls may not wear any type of shoe that has a higher heel. "Dress-up" shoes may not be worn.
- D. Girls must wear shorts under their dresses.
- E. Any clothing that depicts violent characters will not be permitted.
- F. Inappropriate wording or verbiage on clothing is not allowed.
- G. Children may not wear hats in the classroom or at chapel. If hats are worn to preschool, they must be kept in their cubbies until outside play.
- H. No hair coloring or extreme hairstyles are allowed (other than special days mentioned below). Natural colors only.
- I. Special "fun" days (i.e. pajama day, sports days, etc.) – Separate guidelines will be communicated for these days.

**Parents are responsible for their child's appearance and are asked to follow our policy, keeping in mind our Christian environment, and using good judgment in clothing choices for their children.**

### CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

This social media policy applies to students, parents, faculty and staff, board members and volunteers. This policy includes (but is not limited to) the following technologies: Social networking sites, blogs, discussion forums, collaborative online spaces and media sharing services. As part of our duty to safeguard children it is essential to maintain the privacy and security of all our families. We therefore require that:

- No photographs taken by parents/guardians within the preschool setting or at preschool special events and outings with the children, are to be posted for public viewing, except those of your own child. *Parents are advised that they do not have a right to photograph anyone else's child or to upload photos of anyone else's children.* (This excludes those photographs taken by staff for use on the school or church websites, yearbook and in other advertising material).
- No public discussions are to be held or comments made on social media sites regarding the school, children, staff or preschool business (except appropriate use for marketing or fund-raising events) or that could be construed to have any impact on the school's reputation or that would offend any member of staff or parent associated with the preschool.



### EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Christ Lutheran Preschool strives to provide the best proactive care to prepare the staff and students with information on what to do in the event of an emergency or natural disaster.

Emergency Drills: Regular drills for fires, earthquakes, and "skunk drills" are practiced with staff and students, including talking to the children about what to do in this type of situation, practicing where to go for relocation and learning how to stay safe if and when these situations occur. Please remember to talk with your children at home about having a family preparedness plan for your own home and family. The preschool's emergency care and disaster action plan are posted in each classroom.

A "skunk drill" is the preschool-appropriate name for an intruder or any kind. We do not discuss intruders with preschoolers, but instead we practice what to do if a skunk comes to our school, by hiding quietly, in the classrooms, out of sight. Talking to preschoolers about sensitive topics like an intruder situation requires extreme care and focus on their safety and well-being. The goal is to inform them without creating fear or anxiety.

Earthquake Supplies: The school provides earthquake supplies for all children enrolled in Christ Lutheran Preschool as well as staff members. The supplies are designed to maintain the student on a minimal level of nutrition and safety until picked up by the parent.

In the event of a major emergency, the campus will be "locked-down" to assure that we have accounted for all students. **DO NOT TAKE YOUR CHILD WITHOUT FOLLOWING THESE STEPS.**

- A. Go to the Command Center/Office with a photo ID and ask for your child.
- B. A staff member or volunteer will get your child and bring them to you.
- C. A staff member will have you sign out your child before you go.
- D. If your child has been injured, you will be advised about his/her treatment and where they have been transported to.

### INSURANCE

Christ Lutheran School purchases an insurance policy on all its students that provides secondary coverage to your own insurance. The policy provides benefits for covered injuries occurring during the regular school year while A) attending school, and B) participating in school-sponsored activities or athletics under the supervision of a proper school authority. If you are in need of a claim form for an injury during school hours or at a school-sponsored and supervised activity, you may obtain one in the school

office. The Preschool Co-Directors must complete Part 1 of the claim form. Parents should follow the instructions on the claim form. Completed claim forms and bills should be submitted directly to Mutual Insurance Agency by the parent or doctor. Remember, this is secondary coverage to your own insurance.

### **TOBACCO USE POLICY**

The prohibition regarding the use of all tobacco products and e-cigarettes on church and school property applies to students, staff, visitors, contractors, and those using school property for community events. The Tobacco-Free School Policies apply to anyone on school property, in buildings, parking lots, playgrounds, walkways, etc.

## **CURRICULAR INFORMATION**



### **CURRICULUM**

The Preschool of Christ Lutheran Church and School teaches Christian spiritual concepts. As is appropriate with children of this age, most of such teaching occurs naturally and spontaneously in response to events of the day. In addition, there are regular Bible story times when appropriate Biblical and character-building content will be presented. Preschool children learn by doing and are continually evolving in abilities. Using touch, sight, smell, taste, hearing and activities in all areas, including Bible story time, science, art, language arts, math, music and movement we will challenge children to grow. The use of concepts such as colors, shapes, spatial awareness, listening skills, sorting and categorizing will help ready children and support the wide-ranging needs of children throughout the year.

Our pre-kindergarten classes address these concepts most directly. These classes are for those 4-year-olds who will be 5 years old before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. These classes use Handwriting Without Tears curriculum, a developmental program used to teach letters and numbers, what they are and how we use them. Through this curriculum, they learn that we read and write from left to right, top to bottom. Children learn proper crayon and pencil grip and are given their first tools for learning and pre-reading skills.

### **CHAPEL SERVICES**

Chapel services are a high point of our worship during the week. Parents are welcome to attend these services and join us in worship and praise. Children attend chapel services on Thursday mornings. A monetary offering or canned food offering may be brought on chapel day. Food offerings supplement our church's food pantry and monetary offerings are used toward the Pacific Southwest District's "Hearts for Jesus" mission program. Our chapel is at 10:45am on Thursdays in the church sanctuary.

### **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

- Teacher Dedication, Church & School Picnic, Meet the Teacher (August)
- Trunk Or Treat (October)
- Halloween celebration (October)
- Thanksgiving Feast (November)
- Preschool Christmas Program (December)
- Open House and Science Fair (January)
- Fundraisers (*How we supplement the needs that tuition doesn't cover!*)
- Muffins With Mom (March)
- Donuts With Dad (May)
- Spring Fling (*PTL's biggest fundraiser for our school!*)
- Singing in church (*This is our way of giving back to a church that supports us financially and in prayer all year long!*)
- Holiday parties throughout the school year
- Spring Program (*TBA*)
- Service Project (*TBA each school year, usually in the Fall*)
- Dance classes (*additional fee required*)
- Monthly Karate class when instructors are available (free)
- Soccer Shots OC (Monday afternoons, additional fee applies)
- Restaurant Fundraisers! (This is an opportunity to meet and greet other Christ Lutheran families while helping raise money for our special groups and programs.)

***And so much more! Please read the notes sent home with your child, posters on the office doors, updates in the emails we send home and on our website.***



### NAP/REST TIME

Children who are staying with us for naptime will need to provide their own roll-up sleep mat. We recommend a “3-In-One” style from Amazon, Walmart, Target, etc. (Please avoid nylon/polyester sleeping bags as the kids just slide around in them, making it hard for them to settle in and sleep.)

- a) Children may also bring a small comfort item that should be left here for the week. (Small blankets or Beanie-Baby sized plushies/stuffies only, and none that make noise.)
  - b) All items MUST be marked with your child’s last name.
  - c) Please be aware that items not marked with your child’s name will be marked by preschool staff.
  - d) Please, no large blankets, no comforters and no pillows that aren’t attached to the sleep sack.
  - e) Nap items will be sent home for laundering at the end of each week and need to be returned the 1st day of the following week.
  - f) To minimize the use of disposable bags, we encourage you to bring a reusable tote type bag for use in transporting nap items between school and home. This bag should also be clearly marked with your child’s name. We will also use these bags to store your child’s nap items each day. Please be sure the sleep sack fits in the bag!
- Thank you so much for your help and co-operation with these important housekeeping matters!



### SUMMER PROGRAM

The Preschool Summer Program is relaxed and fun-filled. Registration material is available beginning in late April. Our Summer Program is subject to cancellation with low enrollment, so please do not delay in signing up.

### GUIDANCE AND BEHAVIOR POLICY

At Christ Lutheran Preschool, we believe that social-emotional learning during the early years of a child’s life sets a positive foundation for their future growth and learning. We use the Pyramid Model for Promoting Social and Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children to achieve this. The Pyramid Model provides a framework of evidence-based, developmentally appropriate practices to promote young children’s social, emotional, and behavioral outcomes from birth to five years old. Pyramid Model practices are embedded throughout the daily activities.



Our Commitment to Families: We are dedicated to nurturing each child’s uniqueness while fostering a deep respect for others. We recognize that families play a crucial role as the most significant adults in a child’s life. We actively promote mutual respect between families and Teachers. Daily communication between families and our staff is highly encouraged, and our doors are always open to welcome and engage with families. If a child needs additional support in learning social-emotional skills, we will collaborate with the family to develop strategies and interventions. When families have concerns about challenging behaviors exhibited by another student, parents must bring concerns directly to a teacher or our administration and not approach the child’s family.

Our Commitment to a Nurturing Learning Environment: The Pyramid Model includes practices for building nurturing and responsive relationships with children and positive relationships with families as the foundation. We believe this is essential for promoting children’s learning. The Pyramid Model also provides practices to establish a predictable environment, a balanced schedule of child-directed and Teacher-directed activities, and strategies for supervising and guiding children to promote their engagement in learning.

Our Program’s Behavior Expectations: At Christ Lutheran, we teach three program-wide behavior expectations to children. These expectations provide a common language for describing expected pro-social behaviors. Simple rules are created to help reinforce our program-wide expectations. These expectations are: We are safe; We are kind; We are respectful.

Behavior Has Meaning: We know that young children might engage in developmentally appropriate behavior that feels unacceptable to adults. These behaviors are a form of communication. These behaviors communicate a variety of messages, such as wanting an object or attention or wanting to avoid an activity or interaction. Children often engage in challenging behavior when they don’t know how to communicate a complex emotion like frustration or anger. Teachers commonly respond to children’s challenging behavior by redirecting them to more appropriate behavior, guiding them to express their needs, or helping them use social-emotional skills to regulate or cope with their strong emotions.

Preventing and Addressing Challenging Behavior: With the application of the Pyramid Model, our teachers implement practices to help diminish challenging behavior and promote social-emotional skill development with all children. Some children may need

additional support in learning social-emotional skills. To support children exhibiting \*persistent challenging behavior, see the process below. This entire process could take a minimum of three months to complete.

Preschool Administration will:

1. Team with the family to develop an Individualized Behavior Intervention Plan to help diminish persistent challenging behavior.
2. Communicate/meet with the family weekly to assess the effectiveness of the support provided and the child's progress in the program and at home.
3. Direct the family to additional outside resources including but not limited to early childhood mental health professionals to maintain the child's safe participation in the program. (The family will be financially responsible for these resources, if applicable.)
4. Should all resources be exhausted without the child's persistent challenging behavior diminishing, we will work with the family to identify a program where their child can be successful and will guide and support the family through moving to a different program.

*\*Persistent Challenging Behavior is defined as behavior that continues despite consistent appropriate intervention, interfering significantly with daily learning and routines, and/or poses a safety risk to themselves or others.*

### **CYCLE OF DISCIPLINE AND MINISTRY**

Rules for preschool children:

- A. Children are expected to obey teachers and staff members.
- B. Children are not to argue with teachers and staff members. Spirited dialogue is okay, but always spoken with respect.
- C. Children are not allowed to use offensive language.
- D. Children are expected to respect personal property, the property of others and school property.
- E. Bringing toy weapons to school is forbidden. Playing with or building "pretend" weapons is also not allowed.
- F. Chewing gum is never allowed on property of Christ Lutheran Church and School.
- G. Children are not allowed to hit, bite, spit on, scratch, or hurt others in any way.



Discipline is handled with loving concern for each child on an individual basis, centering our thoughts on Jesus and forgiveness. We ask each child for behavior that is kind, loving and Jesus-pleasing. When a child slips from this model behavior, as we all do, the teacher will speak to the child about kindness and forgiveness. If the unwanted behavior continues, the teacher will redirect the child's activity and if necessary, the child will be given a short "time-out" with activities to calm down and reflect on appropriate behavior.

If the problem continues, the Preschool Co-Directors will speak to the child and/or contact the parent. The continued misconduct of a child is considered grounds for dismissal of the child from school. If the child becomes a serious discipline problem, the parents will be required to come to the school and pick up the child. A behavior contract, listing the conditions which must be met for the child to continue in attendance at the preschool, may be required. If the parents/child are unable to correct the problem or if the problem persists over a period of days, the child will be removed from the school at the discretion of the Co-Directors.

It is expected that parents will always show respect toward the Preschool staff and cooperate with them in every way necessary to promote the welfare of the children and the preschool community. If you have any comments or questions, please speak to the staff person concerned. If a resolution is not reached, then speak to the Co-Directors. It is our desire to work closely with each family.



## HARASSMENT POLICY

- A. Policy Statement – To provide an educational environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity is the policy of Christ Lutheran Preschool. The school prohibits any form of sexual harassment of students whether verbal, physical, or environmental. For any employee or agent of the school to harass a student or for a student to harass another student, in a sexual manner as defined below, is a violation of this policy. Federal and state law also prohibits sexual harassment of a student by a school employee. That the alleged harasser did not intend to harass is not a defense against a claim of sexual harassment.
- B. Confidentiality – Every effort shall be made to protect the privacy of parties involved in any complaint. Files pertaining to complaints are confidential and will be discussed only when necessary for the investigation and/or resolution of the matter.
- C. Protection Against Retaliation for Lodging Sexual Harassment Complaint - The school assures that an individual who reports an incident of sexual harassment will not be retaliated against and that the school will keep the matter as confidential as possible.
- D. Definition of Sexual Harassment – For purposes of this policy, sexual harassment is defined as including, but not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, repeated derogatory sexist remarks, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature directed toward a student under any of the following conditions:
  - 1. Submission to or toleration of sexual harassment is an explicit or implicit term or condition of any service, benefits, or programs sponsored by the school.
  - 2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for an academic evaluation affecting a student.
  - 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student’s academic performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment.
- E. Examples of Sexual Harassment - Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to:
  - 1. Verbal: Sexually demeaning comments, sexually explicit statements, questions, slurs, jokes, anecdotes, or epithets.
  - 2. Written: Suggestive or obscene letters, notes or invitations.
  - 3. Physical: Sexual assault, touching, impeding or blocking movement.
  - 4. Visual: Leering, gestures, display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, cartoons, or posters.
  - 5. Continuing to express sexual interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome.
  - 6. Making reprisals, or threats of reprisals following a negative response to sexual advances or following a sexual harassment complaint.

*A single incident of sufficient severity may constitute sexual harassment. In determining whether a specific act or pattern of behavior violates this policy, the circumstances surrounding the conduct shall be considered together with the above definition of sexual harassment. Such determination shall be made from the perspective of a “reasonable person” of the same sex as the victim.*

- F. Employee-to-Student Harassment
  - 1. Employee-to-student harassment is prohibited at all times whether the incidents of harassment occur on school property or at school-sponsored events.
  - 2. To prevent sexual harassment, amorous relationships between a student and an agent or employee of the school are strictly prohibited.
  - 3. Any employee or agent of the school who participates in sexual harassment of a student is subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to verbal warnings, letters of reprimand, transfer, re-assignment, suspension without pay, and dismissal.
- G. Student-to-Student Harassment
  - 1. This policy prohibits student-to-student sexual harassment whenever it is related to school activity or attendance, and occurs at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
    - a. While on school grounds.
    - b. While going to or coming from school
    - c. During the lunch period, whether on or off campus.
    - d. During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.
  - 2. Any student who engages in the sexual harassment of another student is subject to disciplinary action including verbal warnings and reprimands, counseling, suspension and expulsion.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE IMPLEMENTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

The school promptly reports all incidents of sexual harassment, regardless of who the offender may be or the offender’s relationship to the school. Individuals should be aware of the time limits imposed by the local, state and national governmental agencies for the filing of complaints of harassment or discrimination; these time limits are posted on the

official notices, which are displayed in the school office. The school assures that an individual who reports an incident of sexual harassment will not be retaliated against and that the school will keep the matter as confidential as possible. The school recognizes the degree of complexity and emotional turmoil in the confrontation between a harasser and a victim of sexual harassment. Thus, if possible, the school encourages individuals who believe they are being harassed to firmly and promptly notify the offender that his or her behavior is unwelcome. However, if such a confrontation is impossible or ineffective for any reason, individuals should promptly follow the steps below:

### **REPORTING INCIDENT OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

1. Notification of Appropriate Staff: The school has designated one individual of each gender to receive complaints of sexual harassment. Those individuals are Pastor Eric Clausen and Mrs. Amy Blain. Individuals who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment should report the incident to either of these designated individuals.
2. Any individual may also choose to report the complaint to his or her teacher. If the teacher successfully resolves the complaint in an informal manner to the complainant's satisfaction, the teacher must file a confidential report with the principal about the complaint and resolution so that the school will be aware of any pattern of harassment by a particular individual. If the teacher does not successfully resolve the complaint in an informal manner, a written report must be made to the principal within two working days.
3. Description of Misconduct: Verbal reports of sexual harassment must be reduced to an accurate writing by either the complainant or one of the two individuals designated to receive sexual harassment complaints. Thus, individuals who believe that they have been or are currently being harassed should maintain a record of objectionable conduct to prepare effectively and substantiate their allegations.

Although the school encourages individuals to keep written notes to accurately record offensive conduct or behavior, the school hereby notifies all individuals that in the event a lawsuit develops from the reported incidents, the complainant's written notes might not be considered privileged or confidential information.

### **HOW TO VOICE A CONCERN**

During the school year, there may be times when a parent wishes to register a concern about a particular topic or happening. It is important that any concern be heard. A parent having a concern about a teacher, staff member or other person is asked to speak to that person first, using Matthew 18 as a guide. If unresolved, the next step is to speak with that person's supervisor.



## **CHRIST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**

**Celebrating over 61 years in ministry!**

### **TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

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(714) 529-0892

Email: [Preschool@CLSBrea.com](mailto:Preschool@CLSBrea.com)

Website: [www.CLSBrea.com](http://www.CLSBrea.com)



**Preschool staff to serve you:**

Mrs. Susan Ilten, Preschool Co-Director & Preschool Teacher: [mrsilten@clsbrea.com](mailto:mrsilten@clsbrea.com)

Mrs. Erin Stupy, Preschool Co-Director & Pre-K Teacher: [mrsstupy@clsbrea.com](mailto:mrsstupy@clsbrea.com)

Mrs. Tiffany Ross, Preschool Teacher: [mrsross@clsbrea.com](mailto:mrsross@clsbrea.com)

Miss Marisela Vazquez, Preschool Aide/Daycare Teacher: [missmari@clsbrea.com](mailto:missmari@clsbrea.com)

Mrs. Christie Bondurant, Preschool Aide

Miss Jada, Preschool Aide

**Additional faculty to serve you:**

Mrs. Amy Blain, Principal: [mrsblain@clsbrea.com](mailto:mrsblain@clsbrea.com)

Rev. Eric Clausen, Pastor: [eclausen@christbrea.org](mailto:eclausen@christbrea.org)

Mrs. Natalie Ferguson, Admin. Assistant: [natalieferguson@clsbrea.com](mailto:natalieferguson@clsbrea.com)

**Our Ministry and Community Partners:**



NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL ACCREDITATION



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

