

# Nursery Parent Guide



Behold, children are a gift of  
the LORD,  
The fruit of the womb is a reward.

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Psalm 127:3

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**GRACE BIBLE**  

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**CHURCH**

## A Note to Parents...

Children are a gift from God (Ps. 127:3). The Gospels record that when the people brought the little children to Jesus, He took them in His arms and blessed them. Children are special to God and Grace Bible Church is committed to providing the best possible care for the children who are entrusted to us.

We consider it a blessing to serve you. The biblical responsibility of evangelizing our children, encouraging our families, and edifying our servants is one we take very seriously.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please don't hesitate to ask.

In Christ,  
Grace Bible Church Nursery Ministry

## Purpose

Our nursery exists to serve parents and children. We serve parents by providing excellent childcare during ministry events so that parents can devote their entire attention to worship. We serve children by providing a safe and enjoyable environment where Christ and His Word are exalted. Please let us know how we may better serve you and your child during his stay in the nursery.

## What To Expect

The nursery at Grace Bible Church is a safe and loving environment for your child from infancy through three years old. You can expect your child to receive excellent care during his stay in the nursery. Our mission is simple: To serve you and your family so that Christ is glorified and you are encouraged.

The nursery is well-stocked with age-appropriate toys and furniture. Children will enjoy snacks provided by the nursery staff each week.

To help us serve you better, we've also adopted the following policies:

- The nursery opens 15 minutes before services.
- No food will be given to children with identified allergies (unless otherwise instructed).
- A medical release must be on file for every child using an Epi-pen.
- We will make every effort to engage an unhappy child through activities and attention. If a child is inconsolable (10 minutes of non-stop crying), we will contact his parent.
- Medications will not be given by our nursery workers. Please do not put any medications in your child's bottle.
- We have a zero-tolerance policy for inappropriate contact of any kind.

## Your Child's Health

We desire to provide the safest possible environment for your child. Therefore, we operate a well-baby nursery. For the protection of all the children in our ministry, we ask that you keep your child out of the nursery if he displays any of the following symptoms.

- Runny nose
- Cold (symptoms in last 24 hours)
- Fever
- Rash
- Persistent cough
- Sore throat

If your child has non-contagious symptoms, please obtain a note from your doctor to help us properly care for him as well as others. Thank you in advance for helping us keep our nursery a healthy environment for all.

At times children will become ill suddenly. Should your child exhibit any signs of illness, we will isolate him from the other children and contact you immediately.

## Severe Allergies

If your child has allergies or uses an Epi-pen, please notify the nursery workers in his classroom. They will inform you of our severe allergy policy and procedure. This information will also appear each week on your child's name tag when you check him in.

The health and well-being of your child is very important to us. That is why we strive to make our nurseries the cleanest rooms in the church. Listed below are the steps we take to ensure the cleanliness of the nursery. If you see something that needs attention, please let us know.

- All hand toys are cleaned with disinfectant weekly and after any event.
- Crib sheets are changed after every use.
- All spills are cleaned up immediately.
- Workers use disinfectant to sanitize their hands after each diaper change or wiping a nose.

- Non-latex gloves are provided for nursery workers' use.
- The nurseries are cleaned weekly and after each event.

## Classroom Evacuation

- It is imperative that parents stay on the church campus while their child is in the nursery. Parents need to be readily available in the event of an emergency.
- Should an emergency occur and an evacuation be necessary, all children will be escorted by nursery volunteers to the southeast corner of the parking lot. In the event of an evacuation, parents may go to the north edge of the parking lot to pick up their children.
- In an effort to protect the children, please keep in mind that normal checkout procedures will apply. Please be patient as we work for the safety and security of the children.

## What to Bring

When packing a diaper bag for your child, please include the following items:

- Two or three diapers and wipes.
- Pacifier or blanket, should your child need it for comfort. Please include a pacifier attachment so that the pacifier cannot be easily shared with others.
- A complete change of clothes.
- A bottle of milk, formula, juice, or water. Please mark all personal items with your child's first name before coming into the nursery. Please note that if you bring in a bottle of breast milk, you will need to come back and take your baby out to feed him.

## Snacks

Please note that the nursery strives to be a peanut-free zone. Cheerios are served to all children unless otherwise requested. A list of ingredients can be found in the room. If your child has a food allergy, please inform the room supervisor when you drop him off. If you would rather your child not partake of our snack, please notify the nursery worker.

## Nursery Check-In and Pick-Up

You will check your child in using the sign-in sheet in the nursery. Please ensure all of your child's belongings are labeled.

The nursery workers will receive your diaper bag and any other personal items. If there is any information that will help us care for your child (e.g., feeding times, sleeping times, potty trained, etc.), please write it down on the "Notes" section of the sign-in sheet.

You will be given a pager in case your child needs you during the service. You must return the pager to pick up your child. The nursery staff will verify that the pager number matches your child's number on the sign-in sheet. You are free to give your security tag to another person (16 or older) to pick up your child, if needed. We are very careful to release a child only to the person with the correct pager number.

Please do not reach over the counter or gate to pick up your child before the nursery supervisor checks him out.

Please make sure that you have all of your child's personal items before you leave the classroom. Lost and found items will be kept on the counter of each room for pick up the following week.

Please consider those volunteering in the nursery and pick-up your child within 10 minutes of the close of the service.

## Saying Good-Bye

After your child has been checked into his room, simply wave a quick good-bye and leave for the worship service. It is normal for little ones to cry when a parent leaves. This does not usually last long, and separation becomes easier as you develop regular attendance routines. Our leaders will immediately try to create interest in a toy or activity and give assurance that you will return after the worship service. If we are not able to console your child after an extended period of time (10 minutes of non-stop crying), we will contact you.

## Behavior/Discipline

Behavior issues will be handled with gentleness and grace. We will not punish (physically, verbally, or emotionally) children for disobedience. Correction will only be given to maintain classroom safety and order. If we are unable to control your child, or his actions are threatening the safety of other children, we will contact you during the service.

## Nursing Mothers' Room

The nursing mothers' room is located near the top of the stairs in the Sanctuary.

## Promotion to Sunday School

Four-year-olds who are potty trained are promoted to Sunday School the Sunday immediately following their birthday.