

Fairwood Christian Preschool

PARENT HANDBOOK

2026-2027



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A Ministry of NWLife Church



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About Us

Fairwood Christian Preschool is an established preschool that has served thousands of families in the Renton/Kent/Maple Valley area for over forty years. Our excellent teaching staff is experienced and highly trained in caring for the needs of young children. Teachers utilize innovative methods to capitalize on a child's natural curiosity, imagination, and creativity. We use age-appropriate challenges to develop each child's talents and abilities. Children will be acquiring skills they will need in the years ahead. We expect children to enjoy being kids—playing, learning, and laughing. We believe that play is the work of a child and activities that appear to be merely play to adults are very important to a child's development. With these goals in mind, an emphasis is placed on children's social, emotional, cognitive, and physical growth. While recognizing that each child is uniquely different, we encourage them where they are developmentally. We count it a privilege to be entrusted with your children.

Mission Statement

To provide a safe, secure, inclusive, and loving preschool for our community.

Curriculum

To keep our lessons interesting and varied, we utilize weekly themes that tie into all areas of learning. We will also have several focus letters & numbers each week. Teachers will present these in the following areas:

Socialization: Opportunities for parallel and cooperative play. Children will learn to use their words and to problem solve.

Practical Life: Helping children to master their environment with minimal help - such as pouring, buttoning, cleaning up and washing their own hands.

Dramatic Play: Children love to use their imagination and mimic life in our home and dress up center.

Sensorial: Helping children learn to use their senses for observation, comparison, and classification.

Mathematics: Opportunities for children to rote count, use number recognition, and associate abstract with reality.

Science: Experiences in nature and natural laws, guess and check, cause and effect.

Language: Opportunities for children to practice letter recognition, phonics, and to form words by combining sounds.

Spiritual: Christian principles shared through Bible stories, puppet stories, life stories and teacher example.

Music: Experiences with musical instruments, rhythm, and singing simple songs.

Arts and Projects and open-ended activities using a variety of mediums, where

Crafts: individual creativity is strongly encouraged.

Physical: Activities designed to foster development in balance and coordination.

Schedules and Tuition

Class Times	<u>3's and 3-4's Classes</u>	<u>4's and K-Prep Classes</u>
	9:00 am - 11:30 am	9:00 am – 12:00pm

Classes Offered	Class Size	Days	Age	Age Requirements
3's	14 Children	Tues. / Thurs.	3 years old	3 by August 31, 2026
3-4's	16 Children	Mon. / Wed. / Fri.	3 & 4 years old	3 by May 31, 2026
4's	18 Children	Mon. / Wed. / Fri.	4 years old	4 by August 31, 2026
K-Prep	20 Children	Mon. – Fri.	4 & 5 years old	4 by August 31, 2026

***Each child must be potty trained by the start of school.** We understand that accidents happen on occasion and our teachers provide many reminders/opportunities to use the restroom. No pullups or diapers are permitted.

Sample Class Agenda

Arrival—Free Play

AM Circle Time

Group Learning Centers

Wash Hands/Snack/Outdoor Play

Craft Time

Story Time

Dismissal—Clean Up/Review

Tuition

A non-refundable registration and supply fee of \$100.00 is due at the time of registration. Tuition is figured based on the cost of running FCP for an entire school year and divided into nine (9) equal monthly payments as follows:

Monthly Tuition Rates		Optional 5% Discounted Full Year Payment Amount (cash or check only)
3's Class	\$235	\$2009.25
3-4's Class	\$275	\$2351.25
4's Class	\$305	\$2607.75
K-Prep	\$395	\$3377.25

September tuition is due on August 1st. Thereafter, tuition is due on or before the 1st of each month. Payments received after the 7th of the month will incur a \$15.00 late fee. If payment falls 45 days behind, the student will be disenrolled. Accepted tuition payment types are check, money order, cash, automatic withdrawal, and card. Online payments can be made through your Jovial Family Portal, including setting up automatic payments. Returned checks (NSF) will be surcharged with a \$35.00 fee.

Disenrollment

Two weeks written notice must be given to the director in the event a child is to be withdrawn for any reason. Parents are required to pay tuition for those 2 weeks regardless of when the child stops attending.

Extended Absences

The school's budget and teachers' salaries are based on full enrollment, therefore compensation cannot be given for absences. Parents are responsible for each month's tuition despite absences, vacations, or holidays to continue their child's enrollment in the preschool.

Arrival and Pick-Up Procedures

Children must be checked in and out daily **by an adult** at your child's classroom door. Children should never be left unattended in the parking lot, cars, or on the school grounds. Children will only be released to adults (18+) whose names are listed in their Jovial Family Portal. Please contact your child's teacher if you will be delayed in picking up your child from preschool. Classroom doors will be locked until school begins and will remain locked while class is in session.

Late Pick-Up Fee

There is an **overtime charge** of \$15.00 every **10 minutes, beginning 10 minutes** after class has ended.

Health Policies

Our goal is to maintain the best possible health conditions for children. If a child comes to school when he/she is not feeling well, he/she will be more vulnerable to infection. Children may ask to come to school even though they are ill. If a child comes to school when ill, they will be sent home.

Please adhere to the following health policies:

1. If a child shows signs or symptoms of illness such as sore throat, fever, stomachache, unknown rash, pink or itchy eyes, or a persistent cough, please keep them at home.
2. After a fever a child's temperature must be normal (98.6) for 24 hours BEFORE returning to school without the use of fever-reducing medications.
3. If your child has been vomiting, he/she must wait 24 hours BEFORE returning after the vomiting has stopped.
4. If a child contracts a highly contagious condition such as pink eye, chickenpox, fifth disease, head lice etc., they must stay at home until they have been treated by a physician and are no longer contagious.
5. If a child becomes ill while at school, you will be called to pick up the child immediately. We do not have the space or staff to quarantine children. FCP staff will not call unless the child needs to be at home.
6. If a child is well enough to come to school, we will expect him/her to participate in all activities, such as playing outdoors with the class, weather permitting. No medication will be administered by a teacher or staff member except EpiPens if needed.

*Parents are asked to report infectious conditions to their child's teacher so that, only when appropriate, other families may be notified of potential exposure. All reports will remain confidential, and student identities will not be disclosed.

Immunizations

Children enrolled in Fairwood Christian Preschool must be current on immunizations according to the most up to date Washington State Department of Health requirements. A Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) must be submitted before your child's first day of school. Exceptions are permitted with a signed waiver and an understanding that parents may be asked to remove their child from school if there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease. The child would be excluded from school until the outbreak is over.

Discipline

Our discipline policy is designed to help children learn to develop self-control, respect for others, and how to express themselves using words. Children also will learn to take responsibility for their actions and understand that there are consequences to actions. We use a positive approach to help and guide children through redirection, distraction, and positive reinforcement. Teachers establish clear boundaries for appropriate behavior and continually look for good behavior to praise. No corporal punishment, threats, humiliation or harsh words will be used. If a child is unable to control him/herself, the child will be asked to sit in a quiet area away from others and calm themselves. When appropriate, the teachers will allow the child to decide when they are ready to enter back into cooperative play. If a student is physically harming a schoolmate or a teacher, that student will be sent home for the remainder of the day. Conversations with the parent and a collaborative action plan will be created if challenging behaviors persist.

Preschool Apparel

Preschool activities are often messy. Please be sure that your child's clothing is comfortable, washable, and allows for self-dressing. Flipflops are not advised. **Please send your child with weather-appropriate outerwear as we go outside to play in the cold winter months if it is not raining.** Please leave umbrellas at home or in your car.

Snack

Each child is scheduled to provide a snack that's low in sugar once a month on a rotational basis. A snack calendar will be provided monthly. If your child is ill or not at school on the assigned day, please bring a non-perishable replacement snack to be used at another time, when they return. Helpful snack examples will be provided at orientation.

Birthdays are important and children love to celebrate! They may bring cupcakes, ice cream, or other "fun" food items on that day. Children who have summer birthdays will be scheduled sometime during the year to celebrate their half-birthday.

A nut allergy can be life-threatening. Over the past few years, we have seen increased numbers of children who have peanut allergies. For these reasons, we have opted to have nut/peanut-free classrooms. Please help us to maintain a safe environment by keeping all nut products at home, including nut spreads and candy containing nuts. Students with food allergies must still notify us on the student registration forms. Teachers will check ingredient lists from packages before serving snacks for those students. Parents of kids with allergies should provide a backup snack in the event a snack is brought that their child can't eat.

Field Trips

Fairwood Christian Preschool takes several field trips during the school year. The cost of the field trips, if any, is not included in the monthly tuition. A parent must transport to/from and attend all field trips with their child or send an adult in their place. If that is not possible the child must stay home from school on that day.

Fundraisers

Our school sponsors several fundraisers each year to help keep our classrooms updated and parent participation is encouraged but not required. Some families prefer to make a one-time payment donation and choose not to participate in the fundraisers. Tax receipts will be issued for cash donations, upon request.

Parent Involvement

Our goal is to partner with parents throughout the school year and keep you involved and informed on your child's progress. Here are some of the ways that you can share in your child's early childhood experience:

- Teachers will email regularly with reminders of upcoming events
- Monthly snack calendars
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/FairwoodChristianPreschool
- Instagram: @fairwoodchristianpreschool
- Parent classroom volunteers and chaperones for field trips, party days, or special events.
- Student assessments are conducted and provided to the parents in the Fall and Spring.

Inclement Weather Instructions

When snow, ice, or other emergency conditions exist—Fairwood Christian Preschool will follow the Kent District #415 school closures. Preschool families will be notified of closures via email or text, depending on the teacher's communication preference.

If the Kent School District delays start times or closes for the day, the preschool will be closed.

In the event that the school loses power for more than 30 minutes during school hours, Fairwood Christian Preschool will close, and parents will be contacted to pick their children up early. If the school has lost power prior to the start of school day and it is not restored by 7:45am, we will cancel school for that day and parents will be notified.