



KIDS

PARENT HANDBOOK

Psalm 78:4-7 (ESV)

We will not hide them from their children,
but tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.
He established a testimony in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our fathers
to teach to their children,
that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and arise and tell them to their children,
so that they should set their hope in God
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments.

Welcome to FR Kids!

Why Does FR Kids Exist?

OUR GOALS: A safe environment, excellent lessons, and a fun setting where kids can worship Jesus

OUR VISION: to create a place where kids personally encounter Jesus through worship, Bible stories, small group activities, and intentional relationships

OUR MISSION: to help kids become passionate disciples of Jesus

Safety and Security

How to check-in to FR Kids:

- If you are new, please head to our Connect Counter where we will help you to register your child.
- Once your child is registered, use your phone number to check-in your child at our 'check-in kiosk' and obtain a security sticker.
- Place the security sticker on your child's clothes.
- You will receive a parent receipt tag with an alphanumeric code matching your child's sticker.
- Present the receipt tag when picking up your child.
- *If a receipt tag is lost, you must show proper ID before your child can be released.
- Volunteers will remove the name tag from the child and tear it in half before disposing of it.

For the safety and security of all children, please limit the number of people entering the FR Kids area. Only the parents (or guardians) with the tag should enter this area for drop-off and pick-up. We also ask that you not bring additional adults into the FR Kids area to visit. Please take the child out of this area before visiting with family and friends.

At FR Kids, we have a Room Leader and a Room Helper in all our classrooms. At no time should a child be left alone in a room with only one volunteer. All adult volunteers must have a background check completed and all volunteers must wear a nametag as a means of identifying them as authorized to be in the classroom. Children are not allowed to wander around the church campus unattended during services. Children seen wandering will be taken to the appropriate classroom or to the sanctuary to find their parents.

Age Groupings

Children are placed in classrooms according to age or developmental ability. Newborns stay in the nursery until they begin walking and are developmentally ready (generally 18 months) for the Toddler room. As soon as a child turns three, they will be moved to the PRE-K 3 room. As soon as a child turns four, they will be moved to the PRE-K 4/5 room. Five year olds will remain in the PRE-K 4/5 class if they are not attending kindergarten (per Wake County Public School guidelines).

'Move-up' Day will occur once per year at the beginning of the summer. During this time, all students entering a new grade (per Wake County Public School guidelines) will move up to the next classroom in FR Kids. Five year olds entering kindergarten will move to the Primary classroom. Students entering second grade will move to the Elementary classroom. Once children have completed 5th grade, they will graduate from FR Kids and be able to attend Sunday evening Youth Group.

Curriculum

Our preschool program uses the First Look curriculum. Through various Bible stories, we strive to teach our preschoolers that 'God Made Them,' 'God Loves Them,' and 'Jesus wants to be their friend forever.' Each month, we provide preschoolers with memory verse static clings to encourage scripture memory at home.

Our elementary program uses the Biggest Story curriculum. This curriculum is a chronological study that serves as a complete picture of God's Word. We strongly suggest children use the Biggest Story Bible storybook and Memory Verse cards to encourage participation during Sunday mornings and intentional Bible study at home.

Please also be on the lookout for weekly emails with recaps of what we are doing in FR Kids.

Sickness Policy

We want to provide a safe and healthy environment in our children's areas, so we ask parents to refrain from bringing any child to FR Kids if he/she exhibits the following symptoms:

- Fever within the previous 24 hours
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the previous 48 hours
- Nose drainage that is cloudy, yellow, or green (anything but clear)
- Sore throat
- Any unexplained rash
- A heavy or frequent cough
- Pink eye or other eye infections
- Head lice (child should be free of all nits)
- If your child is being treated with antibiotics, he/she should be on the drug for at least 24 hours before coming to church

*** If your child develops any of the above symptoms while in our care, you will be notified. Please make every effort to remove your child from the classroom as soon as possible so other children will not become infected. Thank you for your cooperation. We hope your child feels better soon!

Classroom Policies

If there is an emergency or we are unable to comfort a crying child after 15 minutes, you will be contacted. The children's ministry director will either text the number listed on the attendance sheet or find you in the sanctuary.

Preschool and elementary children will be given a snack of goldfish or cheerios during their classroom time. Due to allergy concerns, no peanut products will be served. Occasionally the curriculum calls for food items for games or activities in the lesson. In this case, please look for an 'allergy alert' email from the children's ministry director. The food items will also be listed outside the classroom door. Please alert the teacher in the classroom or the children's ministry director if there is an allergy to anything listed.

Volunteers in FR Kids are not allowed to dispense any medication. If your child needs medication while at church, the parent or other responsible adult will need to administer it.

Please label all diaper bags, cups, bottles and belongings.

Emergencies

In the case of a fire or other event that requires the evacuation of the building, please allow FR Kids volunteers to escort your child to the predetermined safe location outside of the building. Volunteers have been instructed to only release children to parents after their entire class has arrived at the safe location and a headcount has been conducted. Then, parents will present security stickers just as they would in the classroom to check out their child.

Safe Locations for Emergencies:

- Nursery and Preschool Classes will exit through the main entrance and meet in playground area
- Elementary Classes will exit side entrance and sit on stairs near Fellowship Raleigh sign

It is our desire to serve the families of Fellowship Raleigh to the best of our ability and to the glory of God. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me or speak to your child's teacher. We will work with you to answer any questions or to resolve any concerns.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

Thank You,

Grace Derstine
Children's Ministry Director