

# OPERATIONAL POLICIES :: Trinity Private Preschool

Thank you for choosing Trinity Private Preschool (TPP) for your child's early childhood education. Please read the following Operational Policies that guide our program. Our preschool follows the Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) Minimum Standards under the direction of Child Care Regulation (CCR) for licensed child care centers, operation #1447406.

If you would like to review the Minimum Standards guiding our program, you may go to [hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/child-care](http://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/child-care). If you would like to review our most recent CCR inspection report, it is posted in the hallway of each classroom wing. If at any time you wish to contact the CCR local office, you may do so by calling 817-321-8604. The HHS website can be accessed at [hhs.texas.gov](http://hhs.texas.gov). All suspicions of child abuse and neglect can be reported by calling the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 1-800-252-5400.

We at TPP follow a nondiscriminatory policy. We do not discriminate against applicants and students on the basis of race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

## **Contact Information**

Trinity Private Preschool  
1452 W. Southlake Blvd.  
Southlake, TX 76092  
817-442-8983

Rachel Peters, Director  
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[rachelp@trinitysouthlake.org](mailto:rachelp@trinitysouthlake.org)

[www.TrinityPrivatePreschool.com](http://www.TrinityPrivatePreschool.com)

## **Required Forms**

Prior to the first day of school each year or summer session, the following information must be provided:

- Completed and Signed Admission Form**
- Up-to-date Immunization Records or Notarized Exclusion Affidavit**
- Signed Trinity Private Preschool Operational Policies Acknowledgment**
- Parental Agreement Form**
- Vision and Hearing Screening**, ages 4+ as of current school year only
- Diagnosed Allergy Form with Physician Signature**, if applicable

## **Changes in Operational Policies**

If at any time TPP needs to change an operational policy or enrollment agreement, parents will be notified in writing. A new copy of the Operational Policies will be given and a new agreement form will be signed by the parent to be kept on file at the preschool.

## **Hours of Operation**

TPP operates September through May, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and at specified Summer Sessions Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will generally follow the Carroll I.S.D. calendar for major school breaks. Children will not be admitted to classrooms before 8:55 a.m. to give our staff adequate time to prepare for the day.

## **Parental/Guardian Requirements**

Some of our children may reside in more than one home and have extended family/guardians caring for them. To ensure we are in compliance with the courts, TPP requires a complete, signed copy of any court orders that may apply to a child.

### **Suspected Abuse or Neglect**

If any child shows evidence of abuse or neglect, staff are all mandated reporters and the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline and HHS will be notified. The name of the person(s) who reports the suspected abuse or neglect will be kept confidential. All staff members are trained yearly using <[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/I\\_Am/teachers.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/I_Am/teachers.asp)> along with other trainings in the matters of suspected abuse and neglect – increasing awareness, warning signs, prevention techniques, and reporting. We encourage parents to visit the website <[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/I\\_Am/parents.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/I_Am/parents.asp)> for more information regarding child abuse and neglect – increasing awareness, warning signs, prevention techniques, and reporting. If you feel your child is a victim of child abuse or neglect, please contact the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 1-800-252-5400.

### **Gang-Free Zone**

According to Texas Penal Code as a result of HB 2056, any area within 1000 feet of child-care center is a gang-free zone, where criminal offenses related to organized criminal activity are subject to harsher penalty. Parents may contact the local municipality or court house to obtain a map of what falls within 1000 feet of this preschool.

### **Building Entrances for Arrival and Departure**

You may enter and depart through the west side doors at any time. A code will be provided to you to use the keypad to gain entrance. If you have forgotten the code, you may ring the doorbell and someone will let you in. You may enter and depart through the north side doors between the times of 8:55-9:05 a.m. and 1:55-2:05 p.m. Those doors will remain locked at all other times.

### **Procedures for Arrival and Dismissal**

You must sign in and sign out your child each day. Attendance binders are placed on a desk in front of your child's classroom. Please fill out all information asked for each day and do this for all your children that you have in attendance.

### **Procedures for Release of Children**

Children will only be released to a parent or person authorized on the Admission Form or sign-in sheet. If someone other than a parent or someone on the Admission Form is picking up, this person's name must be printed on the sign-in sheet. Any person with whom we are not familiar will be required to show his/her driver's license before being able to leave with the child. When you are having someone else pick up your child who is not specified on your authorized list and it is not on the sign-in sheet, the director must have a written note, email, or phone call from you. If someone comes to pick up your child who does not have authorization from your Admission Form and they are not listed on the sign-in sheet, and we cannot get in contact with you, the child will not be released to that person.

### **Late Pick up**

Children will be expected to be picked up no later than 2:05 p.m. A \$30 late fee per child will be assessed for children picked up after this time after the second time it happens. Should a child remain after 2:30 p.m., an additional \$30 per child will be charged. Any fees assessed are due by the next day your child is at the preschool. If you find that you are going to be late, please call the school prior to 2:00 p.m. to notify the director. This does not excuse the late pick up; it allows for alternate plans to be made to ensure the appropriate number of staff members will remain on campus until your arrival. Continued tardy pickups will result in a conference with the director and possible dismissal from the program. This policy must be enforced to allow staff time to complete responsibilities before they leave for the day and for staff meetings that may be planned.

### **School Closings – Bad Weather**

On occasion it may become necessary to cancel school due to inclement weather conditions. TPP will follow Carroll ISD. **If they are closed or have a two or more hour delayed start, we will be closed** and you will be notified by email and text. If they have an early dismissal, we will recommend that parents pick up their children as soon as possible. You will be notified through email, text, and phone.

### **School Closings - Other Emergency**

Should it become necessary to close school once the school day has begun due to an emergency situation, parents will be notified by email, text, and phone to come and pick up their children.

### **Bad Weather Make-up Days**

We will include two bad weather make-up days if the preschool has to cancel some days of school. No refund of tuition will be given for missed days due to weather emergencies.

### **Home Communication**

Your child's teacher will send home a take home folder that should be brought back empty the next day that your child is in care. This may include important notices and your child's arts and crafts. Children 18 mos. through 2 years will have a daily report sent home. Developmental assessments will be conducted at least twice a year and sent home for review. Teachers may also utilize other forms of communication with parents.

The director will utilize emails, texts, and monthly newsletters to send out important information. If you change your email address or cell phone number, please notify the preschool.

We also have a Facebook page (Trinity Private Preschool) and weekly emailed newsletters where pictures of preschool activities will be posted. If you prefer for your child's picture not to be included, you will be able to indicate this on a separate form.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Optional parent/teacher conferences will be offered in the fall and spring. During the conference, the teacher will review your child's progress through a developmental assessment. Should you desire to schedule a conference at any other time, please contact the teacher via email first to schedule a time to meet.

Due to privacy laws, teachers may not disclose any information about your child to anyone other than yourself without specific written documentation. If you have any questions or extenuating circumstances, please contact the director.

### **Parental Involvement**

Parental involvement is very important to us and to your child. You are welcome to visit the school at any time during operating hours without having to inform us prior to your visit. If you would like to volunteer in your child's classroom, contact his/her teacher for possible opportunities.

You can also call the preschool office if you would like to see how your child is doing. The director will be happy to check on him/her. The teachers cannot be on any devices while supervising children, so if you have an urgent need/question, call the director.

You may contact the director directly by email, phone, or coming to the preschool during office hours to discuss any questions or concerns about the policies and procedures of TPP.

## **Conflict Resolution**

Occasionally, conflict occurs. The following procedures are followed at TPP:

- All questions, problems or complaints should be brought directly to the person involved.
- If the situation cannot be resolved, the director will be asked to become involved.
- After that the issue will go before the TPP Board for resolution.
- If there is still no resolution, the issue can be taken to the pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

## **Snacks and Lunch**

We are not tree nut or peanut free. We will not serve children anything with tree nuts or peanuts directly in it, but you can provide it in your child's lunch. See Food Allergies in latter section.

Please ensure your child eats a healthy breakfast prior to arriving at school. Food should be finished before entering the classroom.

TPP provides a small snack to the children in the morning. A weekly menu is posted in the classroom hallways. If you wish to provide an alternative snack for your child, please let the teacher know. If there is a change in the snack schedule, the teacher will post this information.

Children are to bring their lunch to school. Please help foster your child's independence by supplying easy to open packaging as you are able. Refrigerators and microwaves are not available. When packing your child's lunch please remember to provide a balanced lunch. Your child will be encouraged to complete the majority of the healthy part of his/her lunch prior to any sugary dessert, but nothing will be withheld. Carbonated beverages are not permitted.

You can send a sports bottle with water labeled with your child's name on it. Water will be available throughout the day and served after active play times and at snack and lunch.

## **Physical Activity**

Children will engage in many activities throughout each day which encourage physical activity which is important for small motor, gross motor, and social-emotional development. There will be at least two times a day which allow large-area play. They will have time outdoors around campus and on the playground (ages 2+) for at least 20 minutes and indoor time in the gym for at least 20 minutes. On days with inclement weather, the gym will be used for both physical activity times. Children are encouraged to run, climb, build, ride on tricycles, scooters, and other ride-on toys, and use their imagination with the greater flexibility and freedom that large-area play offers. While these are mostly unstructured play times, staff may utilize group games and activities. Unrestrictive clothing and closed toed shoes with rubber soles are recommended.

## **Sunscreen and Insect Repellent**

Weather permitting, children will have at least one time of outside play each day up and may utilize the patio or other outdoor areas for lunch and activities. Staff will not put sunscreen or insect repellent on children, so send your child to school with it on if that is a concern.

## **Rest Time at School**

Per CCR, all children are required to have the opportunity to rest if a program is five hours or more. Teachers will create an environment that fosters rest near the end of the school day and are not allowed to keep children awake. If you do not want your child to nap, it is recommended that you pick him/her up **before** the class' scheduled nap time. Children who do not go to sleep are expected to rest quietly on their mat for at least 20 minutes after which time an alternative activity will be provided as needed.

TPP provides a padded sleep mat for each child. You may supply from home another small nap roll or blanket that is crib sheet size or smaller. Items brought from home must be taken home at the end of each week to be washed. The locker cubbies in the classrooms are small and items must be able to fully fit within them, so please refrain from large nap rolls.

### **Toys from Home**

Please do not allow your child to bring toys to school unless requested by the teacher. TPP provides plenty of age appropriate materials and toys in the classroom.

### **Animals**

Parent should not bring any animal onto preschool premises for child and staff safety and wellness. If any staff plans to bring an animal as part of the current unit of study or as a “class pet,” the following procedures will be followed:

- Parents will be notified in writing when animals will be present.
- It will be ensured that the animal does not create unsafe or unsanitary conditions.
- Children will not handle any animals that show signs of illness.
- Children and caregivers will wash their hands after handling or coming into contact with animals and items used by animals.

Documentation of vaccinations for cats and dogs will be kept at the preschool and a statement of health from a local veterinarian will be required for dogs, cats, ferrets, and other animals other than small rodents. Children will not be allowed contact with chickens, ducks, reptiles, and amphibians due to the risk of salmonellosis.

### **Dress Code**

Children should wear comfortable play clothes. We are very busy in preschool and need to move easily as we explore God’s creation. As we often get to participate in “messy” activities, please do not send your child in clothes that restrict your child’s participation.

For the safety of your child, children will not be allowed to remove shoes during the day including nap time. This is in case of an emergency situation which might cause us to evacuate the building immediately. We recommend closed-toed rubber sole shoes at school. The mulch on the playground makes it very difficult to play if the child is constantly removing mulch from his/her sandals.

**Please provide a seasonally appropriate change of clothes, undergarments, and shoes in a zip-lock bag to your child’s teacher that can remain at school. All clothing should be labeled with your child’s name.**

### **Personal Items**

All personal items should be labeled with the child’s name. Lunch boxes and water bottles must be taken home each day. Nap rolls/blankets may be left at school and taken home at the end of the week to be washed. If you choose to send a backpack, it must be able to fit in the locker cubbies.

### **Diapers**

The parent is responsible for providing diapers/pull ups and wipes for his/her child for each day. You may bring enough for the week, but please do not bring more than that as there is not storage area in the classroom. The teacher will inform you if more supplies are needed.

## **Toilet Training**

We do not require children to be toilet trained in the 1's, 2's and 3's classes. We understand that children develop on an individual basis and it is developmentally appropriate for children to toilet train anywhere between the ages of 18 to 48 months. We will work consistently with your child to the extent possible while caring for a classroom of multiple children. Individual toilet chairs will not be used; we offer child toilet seat inserts to put on the regular sized toilets. We ask that parents consider the teachers and other children -- if your child is still having several accidents while toilet training, please send them in pull ups. **If your child is going to wear a pull up, it needs to be one that can be taken off and put on without having to take off his/her pants and shoes.**

We do require children to be fully toilet trained (no diaper or pull ups) before being admitted to a preK class. Teachers will offer assistance with toileting needs as necessary.

## **Field Trips**

No off-campus field trips will be taken. On occasion, TPP children will participate in on-campus field trips with special visitors coming to us.

## **Birthdays**

If you are interested in celebrating your child's birthday at school with a treat, please make arrangements in advance with your child's teacher. We request that it be something easy to serve and not messy (think cookies, not cupcakes). No candles are allowed.

Invitations to personal parties may be distributed in take home folders provided all children in the class are invited, or all girls for a girl/all boys for a boy. If all children are not included in a party, please make other arrangements for distributing them so no feelings are hurt.

## **General Discipline and Guidance Policies**

At times, a child's behavior may be deemed inappropriate and warrant discipline and guidance. In accordance with HHS Minimum Standards, discipline at the preschool will be:

- Individualized and consistent for each child;
- Appropriate to the child's level of understanding;
- Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control; and
- A positive method which encourages self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction.

To meet those ideals, staff will:

- Use praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of only focusing upon unacceptable behavior;
- Remind child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements; and
- Using brief supervised separation or time out from group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of child's age. If the behavior is aggressive and/or becomes unsafe for the child, other children, or staff, the child will be taken to the director until he/she can regain self-control.

The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

- Corporal punishments or threats of;
- Punishment associated with food, nap, or toilet training;
- Pinching, shaking, or biting a child;
- Hitting a child with hand or instrument;
- Putting anything in or on a child's mouth;
- Humiliating, rejecting, ridiculing, or yelling at a child;
- Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language;
- Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and

- Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age, including requiring a child to remain in restrictive device.

### **Suspension and Expulsion**

TPP always retains the right to suspend or expel a child if we feel it is in the best interest of the child, other children, or staff at the preschool. No refund of tuition will be given for suspension. Refund of tuition from expulsion will be issued in accordance with regular withdrawal policies. Unless behavior warrants immediate expulsion, we will give parents a two week grace period to find alternate care.

### **Aggressive Behavior in Children**

At TPP, for safety and health concerns, we take aggressive behavior seriously. We believe that early intervention is in the best interest of children, families, and staff. Our school is committed to addressing development and behavioral issues as soon as they arise. If our staff identifies developmental concerns, the parents are promptly contacted. The staff will work with the family to share information, make recommendations, and strategize an individual approach for meeting the needs of the child.

Some behaviors, such as biting, tantrums, sharing issues or physical aggression are typical developmental issues that we see in the preschool environment. While biting, spitting, hitting, pushing, and kicking can be quite natural responses to frustration in the younger child whose verbal skills are still emerging, children three years of age and older are expected to have outgrown these behaviors. With excessive aggressive behavior at any age, the parents, teacher and director will meet as outlined in the next section.

### **Handling Behavioral Challenges**

Our policy for handling behavioral challenges is as follows:

- The parents will be contacted with detailed information.
- The teacher, director, and parents will meet together to share information, strategize an action plan to support the child, which may include the help of an outside childhood consultant, and set a time for a follow-up meeting, no later than two weeks.
- During the follow-up meeting, the teacher, director, and parents will reflect and reassess the action plan and determine what, if any, future measures shall be taken to support the child.
- If behavior hasn't improved, suspension can be used at the discretion of the director. While suspension seems like an extreme solution, it is actually a useful and common tool in handling extreme misbehavior. It should be regarded as an opportunity for the child to grow emotionally, forget his/her old pattern, and relearn a healthier one.
- If all of our interventions as well as those made by the family outside of school have not been successful, we may determine that we are unable to meet the needs of the child. At that time we will ask the family to find an alternate placement for the child. Unless behavior warrants immediate expulsion, we will give parents a two week grace period to find alternate care.
- During the course of these events, if a child is exhibiting behavior that poses a danger to other children or staff, the director will require that the child be picked up from school immediately that day.

Our program celebrates the individuality of each child. We are committed to responding to a wide range of learning styles and needs. It is only on very rare occasions that a child's behavior may warrant the need to find a more suitable setting for care.

### **Inappropriate Parental/Guardian Behavior**

Because our program is based on developing partnerships and supporting families, it is only on very rare occasions that a parent/guardian's actions or requests may warrant the need to find a more suitable setting for their child. Examples of such instances include:

- The parent/guardian fails to abide by our program's policies.
- A parent/guardian demands special services that are not provided to other children and which our school cannot reasonably deliver, including requests that are outside of our philosophy.
- A parent/guardian is physically or verbally abusive to children, staff, or other parents.
- A parent/guardian uses profanity within hearing distance of children, staff, or other parents while on the Trinity campus.

### **Cell Phone Use**

Parents/guardians should refrain from using their cell phone during drop off and pick up. This is a time for you, the teacher, and child to interact.

### **Firearms**

Firearms are prohibited (concealed or open carry) on the premises of the preschool. The only exception is a law enforcement official who is trained and certified to carry a firearm on duty may have firearms or ammunition. Hunting knives, bows and arrows, and other weapons are also prohibited. (SB 273 & House Bill 910)

### **Minor Injuries**

As preschoolers are active learners, minor bumps and scrapes tend to occur. First aid will be provided and your child's teacher will include an Accident Report in your child's take-home folder or verbally notify you. Due to privacy laws, name(s) of any other children involved will not be included.

Should your child need to be seen by a doctor for something that occurred at preschool, inform the director as soon as possible. We have to fill out a different form in this circumstance and notify HHS.

### **Serious Injuries and Emergencies**

For serious injuries, first aid will be provided, emergency help acquired if needed, and parent will be notified immediately.

EMS will be called if a child is presented as follows:

- Loss of consciousness
- Excessive bleeding
- Severe allergic reaction
- Epi-Pen has been used
- Seizure activity
- Difficulty breathing
- EMS may also be called at the discretion of the director. Should EMS be called, your child will need to be checked out prior to EMS departing the campus, or your child will be transported to the nearest hospital. (Trinity Presbyterian Church insurance is secondary to your primary insurance and only pertains to accidents occurring on campus).

Should your child need to be seen by a doctor for something that occurred at preschool, we have to fill out a form that is signed by the parent and notify HHS.



### **Illness Presenting at Preschool**

If your child becomes ill at school, care will be provided and you will be notified. For the health and safety of all children and staff, a child showing signs of illness and/or with a temperature of 100 degrees or more, vomiting, diarrhea, or unexplained rash, will not be allowed to remain at school. Should a child become ill at school, it is expected that he/she will be picked up within 30 minutes of communication.

PLEASE NOTE: If a child is sent home from school, regardless of explanation, he/she is to be kept at home until free from fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea for 24 hours, **without the use of symptom-reducing medication**. If your child is seen by a doctor, a return to school note from the doctor's office must be submitted

### **Illnesses, Communicable Diseases, and Exclusion**

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Control of Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a child should remain at home when any of the following exist (list is not exhaustive):

- Fever due to any illness - to return, must be fever free **without medication** for 24 hours
- Vomiting or Diarrhea - to return, must be free of symptom **without medication** for 24 hours
- Any symptom of childhood diseases such as scarlet fever, German measles, mumps, chicken pox, or whooping cough - to return, doctor's release is required
- Influenza - to return, must be fever free for 24 hours and symptoms improving
- COVID-19 - to return, must be fever free for 24 hours, 10 days past symptom onset, and symptoms improving
- Common cold - to return, must be fever free for 24 hours and symptoms of colored drainage and cough improving
- RSV - to return, must be fever free for 24 hours
- Sore throat - to return, must be fever free for 24 hours
- Streptococcal (strep throat) - to return, must be fever free and on antibiotics for at least 24 hours
- Croup - to return, fever free for 24 hours and barky cough improving
- Any unexplained rash - to return, doctor's release is required
- Any skin infection such as boils, ringworm, impetigo, etc. - to return, doctor's release is required
- Pediculosis (Lice) - to return, treatment should be started

You are asked to keep your child at home if he/she seems to show any signs of illness. This is for his/her protection as well as for the protection of the other children and staff. Notify the director of all illnesses to receive instructions on when child can return to care.

If your child is seen by a doctor, a return to school note from the doctor's office must be submitted.

### **Medication**

No child should carry medication of any type on their person nor shall possess any medication of any type on the school campus; this includes cough drops.

TPP policy regarding the administration of medication is as follows:

- Only the director or an appointed staff member may dispense medications of any kind to a child other than their own child unless prior arrangements have been made between the parents, director, and the teacher.
- Authorization includes a written, signed, and dated form from the child's parent. The only exception is by telephone to administer a single dose of medication.

- TPP staff will not administer herbal medications, home remedies, or dietary supplements. Diaper rash ointment is an exception if provided by parent.
- If a prescribed medication is to be given, it must be in the original container labeled with the child's full name and the date brought to the preschool. It will only be administered as stated on the label directions or as amended by the child's doctor.
- A child with asthma is required to have a backup inhaler in the medicine cabinet.
- The director may administer prescribed breathing treatments or an appointed representative provided the family supplies the equipment, and the child-specific tubing (cleaned and in a zip-lock bag). The doctor's specific written orders must accompany the nebulizer/medicine.
- If a child has severe allergies, it is required to give the director the appropriate medicine to treat a reaction. TPP employees cannot be held responsible for any complications resulting from an allergic reaction. (Please see section on Severe Allergies.)

### **Severe Allergies**

If your child has any serious allergies, (i.e. food, dyes, insect stings) or any chronic conditions (i.e. asthma, diabetes, seizures), the parent should note this on the child's Admission Form and alert the teacher and the director. A conference shall be held with the parent, teacher, and the director.

### **Food Allergies**

TPP will attempt to assist with food allergies. However, students must be able to be mainstreamed in a normal classroom. **TPP cannot be held responsible for the contents of children's lunches.**

TPP has adopted the following policies and procedures as they relate to food allergies:

- Any family with a child enrolled that has a severe food allergy will be required to meet with the director to discuss what the school can do to accommodate the child and what expectations or requirements the school has for the parents. A specific form will be provided that is signed by the parents to indicate that they understand the risks and they acknowledge that the school has not assumed a duty to protect the child from all exposure to the particular food allergen. A copy of this form will be provided to each of the child's teachers.
- The term "peanut-free zone," "wheat-free classroom," etc. may not be used on campus (either verbally or in written format). The use of similar terminology conveys the perception that the school is guaranteeing or warranting an unrealistic level of safety in the environment. TPP cannot serve as an insurer against all exposure to peanuts or other food allergens.
- Parents will be required to provide documentation from a medical professional regarding the specific allergen that affects their child. With this documentation, the school can request information on the symptoms and the recommended procedures to address the symptoms. (For example, the school should know the signs that occur when the child is having a severe allergic reaction. The documentation provided by the medical professional should direct a lay person as to how to assist the child when a severe reaction is observed.) TPP will specifically address the accommodations that will/will not be made.
- All policies that address an anaphylactic reaction will require parents to provide the antidote, including an EpiPen. There will be several designated individuals trained to administer an EpiPen if needed. Each EpiPen must be clearly labeled with the child's name which will be kept in the child's classroom.
- A note can be sent home to members of the child's class requesting (cannot require) assistance in minimizing the allergen's present in the classroom.
- The school does not guarantee a completely safe environment. Parents are assuming some risk by enrolling their child.

## **Immunization Requirements and Health Statement Authorization**

All preschool students must have a current immunization record or a notarized affidavit excluding your child from immunizations requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. Immunization records must be updated as immunizations are administered, as well as at the beginning of each school year. The affidavit is valid for two years. All immunization records must be validated by a physician or public health clinic. Failure to have immunizations up-to-date will result in suspension from the program until proof of immunizations can be provided or a written explanation from the child's doctor.

Per state guidelines, preschool students must also have a release signed by a physician authorizing them to participate in a preschool program within 12 months of admission or a notarized affidavit saying that medical diagnosis and treatment conflict with the tenets and practices of a recognized religious organization.

## **Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Policy for Employees**

The following is the policy for employees for that must be addressed according to Minimum Standard 746.3611. Staff is not required to obtain any immunizations, but there are those recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention listed on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-schedule.pdf>. If employees choose not to obtain immunizations, the following precautions are suggested: Wearing gloves when handling or cleaning body fluids, such as wiping noses or mouths (if blood is present, gloves are required), and wearing a mask when taking care of children with respiratory symptoms. No discrimination or retaliatory action will be taken against any staff who choose not to obtain immunizations.

## **Vision and Hearing Screenings**

Vision and Hearing Screenings are mandated by state law for children ages four and older as of September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year. TPP will arrange, at a cost to the parent, yearly vision and hearing screenings in the fall. Parents will be notified prior to testing dates. In the event your child needs additional testing, you will be contacted and additional testing with your child's physician will be recommended. If you choose to have your child independently tested, results are due no later than the last Thursday of school in December. If you enroll after December, you will be required to have your child tested by his/her physician and provide the results to the director no later than one month after enrollment. Failure to do so may result in suspension from school until testing is completed.

## **Breastfeeding Provisions**

Mothers will be provided a comfortable place with an adult sized seat at TPP if you need to breastfeed while here. You have a right to breastfeed or provide breast milk for your child while at the preschool.

## **Methods of Payment**

TPP accepts cash, checks, credit cards (not American Express), and auto-debit payments. If paying by check, make checks payable to: Trinity Private Preschool or TPP. If paying by credit card, there will be a 3% processing fee. Return check charge is \$20. Declined auto-debit transactions linked to a checking account will be charged \$1 and those linked to a credit card will be charged \$5. After two insufficient checks or declined auto-debit transactions linked to a checking account, you will need to pay with cash or credit card. After two declined auto-debit transactions linked to a credit card, you will need to pay with cash or check.

## **Tuition and Fees – School Year**

Your monthly **tuition** will remain the same amount each month as it has been established for the entire year. Increase or decrease in number of days must be approved by the director and your

tuition will be adjusted accordingly. Payment is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. After the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month (even if that is not your child's scheduled day), the late fee will be \$30.00. If your payment is late, we will send a note home with your child and/or email you. A tuition box will be placed on the desk in the church office reception area. If your child is sick or otherwise does not attend during this time, please mail your payment to 1452 W. Southlake Blvd., Southlake, TX 76092 to avoid a late fee. You are paying for the space reserved, not the child's attendance. If we do not receive your payment by the end of the month, your child will not be able to attend until payment has been made in full.

The one time, non-refundable **registration fee** is due when you register your child to reserve your child's spot. If you register after the start of the school year, this fee will be prorated for the number of remaining months. If you add days to your child's schedule, you will need to add the prorated registration fee for the number of days added.

If space is available, you may bring your child on a day he/she is not regularly enrolled for the drop-in rate of \$30. Please email or call the director BEFORE coming in to see if space is available.

We will provide end-of-year child care tax statements in January. If you need a monthly receipt of your tuition and fees paid, you must request it.

### **Tuition and Fees – Summer**

Your **tuition** will remain the same amount for each session. Whether you bring your child one, two, or all three days, the tuition remains the same. Payment is due the first week of each session. If payment isn't received by Thursday of the first week (even if your child is not in school that day), the late fee will be \$30.00 and your child will not be able to attend until payment has been made. If your payment is late, we will send a note home with your child and/or email you. A tuition box will be placed on the desk in the church office reception area. If your child is sick or otherwise does not attend during this time, please mail your payment to 1452 W. Southlake Blvd., Southlake, TX 76092 to avoid a late fee. You are paying for the space reserved, not the child's attendance.

The non-refundable **registration fee** is due when you register your child to reserve your child's spot.

End-of-year child care tax statements will not be provided for summer only participants unless requested. If you need a receipt of your tuition and fees paid, you must request it for each session.

### **Withdrawals**

Any child withdrawing from the program must give two weeks' notice prior to withdrawal; otherwise, payment for two weeks tuition will be required. The registration fee due at enrollment is non-refundable. Please notify the office immediately. All fees are necessary, as space has been made available for your child in his or her class. Your fees are used to pay supplies for your child and wages of the teachers hired based upon the teacher/child ratio of each class.

### **Emergency Preparedness Plan for Parent**

At TPP, the children's safety and well-being is very important to us. For that reason we have developed this Emergency Preparedness Plan. We hope to never be in a situation where we must execute this Plan, but we want to be prepared for any emergency or evacuation event. In the event of an emergency during the operating hours of Trinity Private Preschool, please make yourself familiar with the following procedures.

**WE WILL CONTACT YOU FOR ANY TYPE OF EMERGENCY OR EVACUATION. STAFF WILL CONTACT PARENT(S) FIRST, THEN EMERGENCY CONTACTS LISTED ON ADMISSION FORM IF NEITHER PARENT CAN BE REACHED.**

## COMMUNICATIONS DURING/AFTER A DISASTER

1. Identify people who are usually home during the day to be responsible for picking your child up from school if you will not be able to get your child immediately. These people should be listed on your child's Admission Information form as emergency contacts/emergency release.
2. Develop a system of notifying your designees if you need someone to pick up your child.
3. Make certain that your designees know about the school's evacuation and child release procedures. Remind them that they will need to show ID in order for the child to be released.
4. Make sure the school has your designee's correct phone number. Ensure that the person who picks up the child knows to call you to let you know when he/she has your child.

## EVACUATION PROCEDURES

In case of a fire, weather event, gas leak, etc. children may be evacuated from their classrooms. Depending on the magnitude of the incident, the school may be closed until further notice. If the building needs to be evacuated and closed, children will be evacuated to the north fence line and wait to be released to a parent or authorized designee. If the building needs to be evacuated and other indoor shelter taken, the children will be taken to the Southlake Chamber of Commerce Building, 1501 Corporate Circle; Suite #100; Southlake, 76092; 817-481-8200 and wait to be released to a parent or authorized designee.

Your cooperation is necessary during a disaster:

1. **Do not call the school.** Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication. Also, after a major disaster local phone lines may be down.
2. If you are within the D/FW city limits, tune into a local television station, or turn your radio to 530 AM for emergency announcements, including school closures and other important information.
3. Help us protect your child during a disaster; **please be patient with any child release procedures.**

## CHILD RELEASE PROCEDURES FOR AN EVACUATION EVENT IF STILL ON CAMPUS

- Drive onto campus into the west side parking lot from Southlake Blvd. or Corporate Circle.
- Enter the north parking. Drive towards the north fence line where you will see the children lined up. Pull up as guided.
- Do not get out of your car until your child is brought to you.
- The staff member will bring the child and a sign-out sheet to the car. If it is not a parent, the person will be checked against the child's Emergency Release information on the child's Admission Form and **an ID will be checked.** The parent/authorized person will print his/her name, child's name, and time out.
- You are then responsible for buckling child into car properly and then will exit the campus by way of the east driveway back to Southlake Blvd.

## CHILD RELEASE PROCEDURES FOR AN EVACUATION EVENT IF AT SOUTHLAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Drive onto Corporate Circle from Southlake Blvd.
- **DO NOT** enter the parking lot; pull alongside curb. Pull up as far as guided.

- Do not get out of your car until your child is brought to you.
- The staff member will bring the child and a sign-out sheet to the car. If it is not a parent, the person will be checked against the child's Emergency Release information on the child's Admission Form and **an ID will be checked**. The parent/authorized person will print his/her name, child's name, and time out.
- You are then responsible for buckling child into car properly and then will exit Corporate Circle onto Peytonville.

### **DISMISSAL DURING SEVERE INCLEMENT WEATHER**

If we are taking shelter during dismissal time due to severe weather, you may choose to pick your child up at your own risk. The Director will guide you to the safe room where your child is taking shelter and you may follow regular check-out procedures.

### **ANTICIPATED INCLEMENT WEATHER OR NATURAL DISASTER EARLY RELEASE**

You will be contacted and will be expected to reach the Preschool for pickup within 30 minutes. If you cannot be reached, the staff will call the emergency contact. If you are reached but cannot arrive within 30 minutes, you should contact your emergency contact person to come pick up your child. The director and proper number of staff to stay in ratio will stay until all children have left the building.

### **SCHOOL LOCKDOWN**

If there is ever a volatile or endangering person posing a security risk to the preschool, we will lockdown. Since Trinity Private Preschool is located in such close proximity to Carroll Senior High School, in the event there is a security risk there, the preschool will also lockdown as a precaution. A campus lockdown involves intense security measures that prevent anyone from **entering or exiting the building**. Children and staff will not be allowed to leave their classrooms until we are given an "all clear" by the Southlake Police Department.

**We perform fire drills once a month, severe weather drills quarterly, and lockdown drills quarterly.**

\*\*If you would like to see the Emergency Preparedness Plan for staff, please contact the director for a copy.