# PARENT HANDBOOK



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#### **Welcome Letter**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to **Bethany Learning Daycare**. We are honored that you have chosen our center to care for and educate your child. We recognize the trust you are placing in us, and we are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and Christ-centered environment for every child.

At Bethany Learning Daycare, our **mission** is to enrich children's lives through high-quality early childhood education grounded in Christian values. Our goal is to foster each child's spiritual, social, emotional, physical, and academic development in partnership with parents.

Our **vision** is to prepare children to thrive in school and in life by building strong foundations of faith, character, and knowledge. We aim to nurture compassionate, confident, and Christ-led young learners who will positively impact their communities.

Our values guide every decision we make:

- Love: Every child is treated with kindness, patience, and respect.
- **Integrity:** We operate with honesty and accountability in all matters.
- Excellence: We strive to provide the highest standard of care and instruction.
- **Faith:** We integrate Biblical truth into daily learning and interactions.

We look forward to building a strong partnership with your family as we guide your child through these foundational years.

Sincerely,
Shelcie Stimphil
Director, Bethany Learning Daycare

#### **General Information**

Name: Bethany Learning Daycare

Address: 6229 Winegard Road, Orlando, FL 32809

Phone Number: (407) 271-4711 Email: admin@bca-edu.org Website: www.bca-edu.org

# **Hours of Operation:**

Monday – Friday, 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM

# **Holidays and Closures:**

The daycare will be closed on the following days each year:

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day and the Friday following Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

#### Additional closures include:

- **Teacher Workdays/Professional Development Days** (calendar will be provided annually).
- **Emergency Closures** due to weather, power outages, or safety concerns (parents will be notified via phone, email, and school communication system).

#### **Enrollment & Admissions**

#### **Enrollment Process:**

Enrollment is accepted year-round, based on classroom availability. All enrollment paperwork must be completed, all fees paid, and all required documents submitted prior to a child's first day. A child may not attend until the enrollment process is complete.

# **Required Documentation:**

- Completed enrollment application form
- Copy of child's birth certificate
- Florida Certificate of Immunization (Form 680)
- Florida School Entry Health Form (Form 3040)
- Emergency contact list with at least two alternative pick-up persons
- Parent/Guardian photo ID (for verification)
- Applicable enrollment and supply fees

# **Age Groups and Classrooms:**

- **Infants:** 6 weeks 12 months
- **Toddlers:** 1 year 2 years
- Early Preschool: 2 years 3 years
- **Preschool:** 3 years 4 years
- **VPK:** 4 years 5 years (must have Florida VPK Certificate of Eligibility)

#### **Tuition & Fees**

## **Payment Schedule and Methods:**

- Tuition is charged weekly. Payment is due **each Monday by 9:00 AM** for the upcoming week.
- Accepted payment methods: check, money order, debit/credit card, or approved electronic payment system.
- Families with scholarships (School Readiness, VPK Wrap-Around, Step Up) are responsible for co-payments and any portion of tuition not covered by funding.

# **Late Payment Policy:**

- Payments received after Tuesday at 9:00 AM will incur a \$25 late fee.
- If tuition is not paid by Friday of the same week, the child will not be allowed to attend until the balance is cleared.
- Chronic late payment may result in disenrollment.

# **Registration and Supply Fees:**

- A non-refundable registration fee is due at enrollment.
- An **annual supply/activity fee** is required each August to cover materials, curriculum, and classroom resources.

## Withdrawal Policy:

- Parents must give a **minimum of two weeks' written notice** before withdrawing a child.
- Tuition and fees are non-refundable. Absences, holidays, or emergency closures do not reduce tuition.
- Parents who fail to provide two weeks' notice will be billed for that period regardless of attendance.

## **Daily Schedule & Routines**

## **Drop-Off and Pick-Up:**

- Drop-off begins at 6:00 AM. All children must arrive by 9:00 AM.
- Pick-up is no later than 6:00 PM. A late fee of \$1 per minute will be charged after 6:00 PM.
- Only adults listed on the **authorized pick-up list** may pick up a child. A valid photo ID is required every time.
- Parents must sign children in and out daily using the designated system.

## **Sample Daily Schedule:**

- 6:00–8:00 AM: Arrival and free play
- 8:00–8:30 AM: Morning circle, prayer, Bible story, songs
- 8:30–10:00 AM: Learning centers and guided instruction
- 10:00–10:15 AM: Morning snack
- 10:15–11:30 AM: Outdoor play or large motor activity
- 11:30–12:00 PM: Lunch
- 12:00–2:00 PM: Nap/rest
- 2:00–2:30 PM: Afternoon snack
- 2:30–4:00 PM: Enrichment (art, music, literacy, math)
- 4:00–5:30 PM: Outdoor play or structured group activity
- 5:30–6:00 PM: Story time and dismissal

#### **Attendance and Absences:**

- Parents must notify the office by 9:00 AM if a child will be absent.
- Tuition is charged regardless of absence.
- Excessive unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the program.

## **Health & Safety**

#### **Immunizations:**

Children must have a current **Form 680** and **Form 3040** on file. Updates must be submitted as required.

#### **Medication:**

- Only prescribed medication in original containers will be administered with a signed parent authorization form.
- Over-the-counter medication requires a doctor's note.
- Staff will log all medication administration.

## **Illness Policy:**

Children must stay home if they have:

- Fever 100.4°F or higher
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Contagious conditions (strep, flu, pink eye, chickenpox, etc.)
- Any unexplained rash or signs of illness

Children may return only after 24 hours symptom-free without medication.

# **Emergency Procedures:**

- Fire, weather, and lockdown drills are conducted monthly.
- Parents will be contacted immediately in case of emergency evacuation or closure.

# **Security Measures:**

- Access-controlled entry and surveillance cameras are in place.
- All visitors must sign in and show identification.

# **Meals & Nutrition**

- VPK program (8:00 AM 12:00 PM) does not include meals. Parents must provide snacks and lunch.
- Wrap-around care students are provided scheduled snacks and meals.
- All allergies must be documented in writing. Certain foods may be restricted for safety.
- Meals from home must be labeled with the child's name.

# **Behavior & Discipline**

- Our philosophy is **positive**, **Christ-centered guidance**. We use redirection, praise, and problem-solving to encourage appropriate behavior.
- Physical punishment is strictly prohibited.
- Biting, aggression, or unsafe behavior will result in parent notification, documentation, and, if persistent, behavior plans or dismissal.
- PBIS principles may be integrated for consistency across classrooms.

# **Parent Communication**

- Daily updates are provided through reports, apps, or notes.
- Parent-teacher conferences occur at least twice yearly.
- Parents are invited to chapel, classroom activities, and school events.

# **Program Curriculum**

- We use **Learning Beyond Paper** and **Nemours BrightStart** for early childhood instruction.
- Daily lessons integrate Bible stories, prayer, and Christian character training.
- Children also participate in enrichment such as art, music, dance, and chapel (age-appropriate).

# **Clothing & Personal Items**

- Children must wear comfortable play clothes and closed-toe shoes.
- A full set of labeled extra clothes is required and kept on-site.
- Toys, electronics, and valuables from home are not permitted.

# **Field Trips & Special Events**

- Written parent permission is required for all off-site trips.
- Children are supervised at all times and transported according to safety standards.
- On-campus events (holiday programs, celebrations) are scheduled throughout the year and parents are encouraged to attend.

# **Termination of Services**

Bethany Learning Daycare reserves the right to disenroll a child for:

- Non-payment of tuition/fees
- Repeated late pick-up
- Failure to maintain required documentation
- Ongoing unsafe behavior or refusal to follow daycare policies
- Lack of parent cooperation with staff and administration

Parents will receive written notice prior to termination, except in cases of immediate safety concerns.

Bethany Learning Daycare
Parent Handbook Signature Form
Student's Name:
Grade Level:
Parent/Guardian's Name:
Date Handbook Received:
By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have received and read the Bethany Christian Academy Parent Handbook. I understand that it is my responsibility to read and follow all the rules and policies outlined in this handbook. I also understand that this handbook may be updated, and I will be informed if there are significant changes.
I agree to support the school's mission, values, and rules as outlined in the handbook and to encourage my child to do the same.
Parent/Guardian Signature:
Date:
Student Signature (For Grade 4 and up):
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