

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY POLICY

Purpose

The Children's Ministry of Hillview Baptist Church exists to assist parents and guardians in providing spiritual formation through age-appropriate biblical teaching, reinforcement, and activities. The Children's Ministry aims to provide a safe, secure, and structured environment to which parents can confidently entrust their children while participating in adult ministries. The ministry is divided into two categories: Nursery and K-6th Grade.

AGES

- The nursery provides care from birth to four years old.
- The nursery provides separate spaces for infant care and toddlers.
- Children from Kindergarten through Sixth Grade have class provided during Sunday School and Wednesday evening programming. Children over five years old participate in the worship service with parents and/or guardians.

SAFETY

- All volunteers in direct contact with minors must pass a multi-state background check.
- No less than two volunteers will be present in the nursery at all times.
- All beds, rockers, and other items in the nursery are OSHA approved.
- At times when the congregation is meeting in the sanctuary, all exterior doors leading to the educational wing, fellowship hall, and office will remain locked.

REGISTRATION

- All children and parents must complete the nursery registration form.
- Children may only be picked up by persons listed on the nursery registration form.

WORKER QUALIFICATIONS

- All Children's Ministry volunteers must participate in Child Safety Orientation, at which point the guidelines of the Children's Ministry Policy will be clearly explained.
- Of the two volunteers present at any given time, one must have actively attended Hillview Baptist Church for a period of at least six months. After three months of active attendance, a person may volunteer under the watch care of an experienced Children's Ministry volunteer.
- Of the two volunteers present at any given time, one must be a female over the age of 18. Teenagers from 13-18 years of age may serve as helpers.
- Per safety recommendations, close family members are discouraged from volunteering without the presence of a non-family member, i.e., spouses, parent and child, or siblings.

REPORTING ABUSE

All volunteers are required by law to report suspected abuse of any kind to local authorities. In such cases, the pastor should be informed and should consult parents concerning suspicions.