

Daily Schedule — HOURS: 8:30am to 12:00noon
(Note: modifications may occur per current CCL protocol &/or
times adjusted as needed to accommodate special activities/weather)

- 8:20AM Sign-in; children wash hands before class
- 8:30-8:55 Welcome song / Attendance / Helpers
*Pre-TK class — Flag Salute / Calendar /
Weather / Classwork
PLAN >> Choose Area
- 8:55 - 10:00 DO >> Free Choice (Big Room) Art, Blocks,
Cooking, Creative Writing, Discovery Center,
Dramatic Play, Manipulatives, Motor Skills,
Music & Movement, Quiet Corner
See calendar for planned activities
- 10:00-10:05 Notice song, "I Can Do That"
Clean-up song, "Everybody Helps"
- 10:05-10:20 Large Group -- Flannelgraph, Games,
Musical Instruments, Parachute, Puppets,
Rhymes, Songs, Storytelling/Reading
- 10:20-10:50 Wash Hands
Snack Room / Name Cards / Bible Songs /
Story / Pray / Serve / Eat / Clear
Space / Wash
- 10:55-11:15 Classroom >> REVIEW
Good-bye song / Game / Book / Activity
- 11:15-12:00 Restroom
Outdoor Motor Skills
Teachers dismiss children to parents as they
are signed out at noon.
- 12:06PM--> Late pick-up charges accrue

rev. 1/2024 C.A.L.

Helping Hands

Christian Preschool

Student Handbook



**Motto based on Luke 2:52*

CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Martinez, California 94553
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Preschool Phone # 925-229-2975
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hhcpmartinez.org

PHILOSOPHY

The aim of Helping Hands Christian Preschool is to provide a quality preschool education in a caring environment. The process of human development begins at the time of conception and continues throughout a person's life. Accordingly, it is our goal to promote growth in each component of your child's development -- cognitive, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual.

We intend to do this by planning and carrying out programs of instruction particular to the learning patterns of young children, recognizing and providing for the individuality of each child.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

HHCP serves children aged two years to first-grade entry. Children are signed up to attend one to four days per week, Monday through Friday, contingent upon availability. Preschool hours are from 8:30am to 12:00noon.

Helping Hands Christian Preschool is located in the Martinez church of Christ building. The church sponsors the preschool; therefore, first priority for preschool admission is to the children of the church membership. Returning students have second priority. Admission is then open to the children of the community. The annual registration fee must be paid in order to reserve your child(ren)'s place. This fee is not refundable.

It is our mission to serve each child to the best of our ability. In order to do this, if your child has an emotional or physical condition that we are unable to accommodate in our setting, we have the right to require that you withdraw her/him from our program. Please see the Admission Agreement.

INCIDENTAL MEDICAL SERVICES

(continued from page 9 of 10)

Administration Staff will be trained by the parent, according to the physician's written instructions. Staff is also trained and certified in CPR/First Aid annually. Any staff member may administer the required medication. In the event of an emergency/evacuation, medications will be brought along with the child to an offsite location, in a lock box if necessary.

Precautions Gloves will be worn while administering medication to insure no potential exposure to blood or body fluids. Hands will be washed immediately before and after removal and disposal of gloves, and disposal of used instruments will be in approved containers.

Record Keeping HHCP will obtain and maintain written permission from the authorized adult representative to provide required incidental medical services; complete, written instructions from the child's physician; staff training provided by the parent/authorized adult representative to follow the written physician's instructions (may include written referral to a website). LIC 622 Centrally Stored Medication and Destruction Record will be kept posted in the staff office along with LIC 9221 Parent Consent for Administration of Medications and Medication. Staff will call one parent and a note will be attached to the child's daily sign-in sheet if an incidental medical service was provided. Chart will be completed after each incident and kept in the child's file.

Over-the-Counter Medications (OTC) will NOT be administered. This includes diaper cream, lip balm, lotion, etc.

INCIDENTAL MEDICAL SERVICES

The staff of Helping Hands Christian Preschool will only administer specific types of prescription medications while a child is in our care—and only when it is necessary for the health and welfare of the child—under the following conditions:

Prescription Medications will be administered as needed when the child's physician has included written authorization; the medication is in its original container with a prescription label attached, which includes the child's name, date prescribed, expiration date, and the doctor-recommended dosage. The parent/authorized adult representative will review the doctor's instructions with all HHCP staff and complete the Parent Consent for Administration of Medications and Medication Chart LIC9221, which will remain in the child's file. As soon as a change occurs, a new label must be obtained and a new form must be completed for the child's file.

Glucose Chart LIC 9222 a Blood Glucose Testing Consent/Verification chart will be kept in the child's file and a copy will be kept with their testing equipment.

Inhaled Medication, specifically metered-dose inhaler or nebulizer, to be used as directed by the child's physician.

Injected Epinephrine requires an allergy list to be kept in the child's file with reactions to look for; if used, staff will first call 9-1-1, then the parent.

Storage of medication is to be in a locked cabinet in the child's snack room, unless it requires refrigeration, which will be kept in a lock box in the kitchen refrigerator. The parent is responsible to replace medications before they expire; collect and dispose of expired medications away from the facility; and remove them on their child's last attendance day.

CURRICULUM & METHODS

Children learn best through experimentation; therefore, HHCP divides the **Indoor Activity Space** into interest centers, which provide diverse activities from which your child may choose, giving them opportunities to make decisions while expanding their language and social abilities.

Each child participates in the daily planned art activity. The **Art Gallery** is stocked with an array of collage materials, paints, playdough, and other mediums for your child to express their thoughts and feelings. An assortment of fasteners, punches, scissors, stationery items, and writing utensils are available in **Creative Writing**, stimulating self-expression as well as pre-reading and writing skills. Your child can retreat to the peace of the **Quiet Corner** to look at and listen to books.

Building Blocks contains different types of animals, blocks, furniture, people, and vehicles. Blocks enable children to grasp pre-math concepts, such as mass, shape, size, and weight. These ideas are learned in the **Discovery Center** as well, where hands-on materials teach about nature and responsibility. Games, puzzles, small blocks, stringing and matching materials, etc. to develop fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

Dramatic Play includes bags, cooking equipment, dolls, dress-up clothing, plastic foods, play money, mirrors, puppets, stuffed animals, etc., allowing your child to explore careers, family interactions, and life skills.

Music contains a CD/MP3/tape player, audio books, flannel/magnetic/whiteboard, varied music genres, and musical instruments for the children's use. **Movement** is encouraged through balance equipment, balls, beanbags, hoops, scarves, etc. **Large Group** includes games, parachute, songs, and storytelling.

Weather-permitting, your child will develop their **Motor Skills** in the fenced **Outdoor Activity Area** using balls, bubbles, chalk, climbers, games, gardening, jump ropes, obstacle courses, seesaws, slides, tricycles, water table, and woodworking.

Small Group is conducted in the children's Classrooms. The children meet at the beginning of the day to sing, take attendance, share, and plan their day. (The pre-K class has longer group to include: flag salute, calendar, weather, and homework.) At the end of the day, the children return to their classrooms to review the day, sing, read, and play games.

Chapel is held in the upstairs auditorium monthly. The minister leads Bible songs, prays, and relates a Bible story to the children. On regular preschool days, the teachers read from one of several different children's Bible storybooks before snack.

SNACK TIME

HHCP's program includes a healthful mid-morning snack. Children assist in preparing snacks on occasion, as cooking is an excellent learning experience. Manners and independence are also learned during this time: setting the table, passing, pouring, counting, and serving snack items, sampling a varied menu, and cleaning up after themselves.

Snacks are listed on the monthly calendar that is emailed. Exceptions to the typical snack times are birthdays and holiday parties.

List ALL foods on the Health History Form that your child is unable to consume due to allergy or family preference. In this case, the parent needs to send a labeled bag of nonperishable food in original, individual-sized packing to be used throughout the year when your child requires a substitution.

HEALTH PRACTICES

All forms must be completed and returned before a child's first day at HHCP, including a copy of their current immunizations as required by the local government for their age level (list posted). An authorized adult representative is to complete and return an emergency bag/contact information for each child to have available in their class disaster bin.

The ID/Emergency and Consent for Medical Treatment forms must include your child's medical and dental record numbers in order that HHCP may obtain emergency care for your child if the parent and doctor are not immediately available. 9-1-1 may be called for emergency medical and/or dental procedures, at the parent's expense! ***REMEMBER TO UPDATE RECORDS AS CHANGES OCCUR.*** Staff is CPR/First Aid certified and equipped with first aid kits.

No child shall be accepted without contact between HHCP staff, the child, and the adult bringing the child. Each child's temperature will be taken before entry when required by local health orders. After the child has been determined to be without obvious signs of illness, the child may be signed in. Should a child show signs of illness once they are signed in, they will be isolated with supervision and the parent will be called. The child must be picked up within twenty minutes. Late charges apply.

Please be considerate of your child's needs as well as the health and safety of each preschooler—keep your child at home when they are not well. Notify the school if s/he becomes ill with any communicable disease/condition: fever (above 99.9°F), diarrhea, or vomiting within the last 24 hours; constant cough; discharge from the eyes or nose; head lice; rash; etc.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

The agreed upon morning(s) of your child's attendance at HHCP are indicated on their Admission Agreement. Any changes must be approved by the director and require a two-week notice. All charges associated with that period will apply.

DROP-IN CARE

If space is available and authorized in advance, a child may attend on a day other than their schedule at a fee of \$40 per morning, which is due that day.

HHCP's TAXPAYER ID # 94-1597414

Keep all checks/cash receipts. Annual logs are emailed after the last payment for the year.

DISHONORED CHECKS

Checks are deposited throughout the month. A \$50 fee will be charged for each returned check. The dishonored check and fee will be considered delinquent on the last day of the month; late charges will accrue. After two (2) such checks, subsequent payments must be made in cash or money order.

DELINQUENT TUITION/CHARGES

Tuition is due on the 1st and late after the 15th each month, unless pre-approved arrangements have been made with the director. A \$15 late payment charge will be assessed. Payment will be considered delinquent on the last day of the month and will accrue monthly late charges. Nonpayment prevents your child from attending HHCP until all fees have been paid. The space cannot be reserved. If the child does not return to HHCP, outstanding fees will be due immediately.

ARRIVAL & PICK-UP PROCEDURES

HHCP's schedule is 8:30am to 12:00noon. Each morning, a stop sign is placed near the east preschool entrance; please wait for a staff member to remove it (between 8:20 and 8:30am). Prior to this time, the staff is preparing the environment and materials for your child's day.

Please respect your child's need to be on time. Routines help them know what to expect and it is often difficult to adjust when arriving after class has begun.

Each family is asked to help your child wash their hands, then bring them directly to their classroom and sign them in, recording the arrival time. At the end of the morning, your child will be picked up here and signed out, noting the time. **If your legal signature is not legible, licensing requires that you print your full name next to it.**

Children will only be released to adults (minimum age 18 years) listed by the authorized adult representative on the ID/emergency form. If an unlisted person will pick up your child, bring in a signed and dated note to be kept in their file. Please inform the adult that photo identification will be required. Should anyone come to pick up a child that has not been pre-approved, the parent/guardian will be contacted for verification prior to us dismissing them.

It is important that your child be picked up promptly at 12:00noon. Children worry if their friends have gone before their own parent arrives. Also, preschool staff have several tasks to be done at the end of the day.

A late pick-up fee of \$10 per child will be assessed at 12:06pm and continue to accrue at \$10 per 5 minutes, or fraction thereof. The amount owed will be recorded if not paid that day; charges carry the same penalty as delinquent tuition.

PARENT ORIENTATION

Our annual Parent Orientation is on the last Tuesday of July at 7:00PM. This is an informational meeting and children are unable to attend. Please bring all completed paperwork. If your child is returning, you will be given their file to review that evening. All paperwork must remain in the file.

VISITS (if allowed by CDPH & CCL)

You are welcome to visit HHCP at any time during operating hours. Please recognize that the enrolled children are the teachers' priority. Building friendships with other parents is a benefit of having your child in a center.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT (if allowed by CDPH & CCL)

Parents are a key element in their child's education. We hope to help forge a positive relationship between each child, their family, and their school that will continue during the child's entire educational career. Events, field trips, and parties can only be accomplished with your help. We also appreciate donations of wish list items and material preparation/repairation.

ATTIRE

Children should dress in modest, school-appropriate clothing. They will get messy! Wear shoes that cover the entire foot (no holes, as they fill with playground fiber in the yard). Please bring in a complete, labeled outfit in case of spills: shirt, pants, underwear, and socks. If your child is not completely potty trained, please bring two sets and an extra pair of shoes. Diapers/pull-ups are to be provided by the family. HHCP supplies the wipes and gloves for diaper changes.

ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE

\$125 per family for the 1st child and \$50/additional child is charged upon initial registration and annually thereafter. This payment reserves your child's place in September and is NOT refundable. Sign-ups for the following year and summer commence in January. Open Enrollment begins in February.

BUDDY BONUS

Earn a \$100 credit toward your child's tuition when a "buddy" (not a sibling) enrolls due to your reference. One bonus for each new family. Please let the Director know if you referred or were referred by another family.

PAYMENT POLICY

Tuition is due and payable on the 1st day of each month. Summer session pay periods are noted on the sign-up form.

TUITION

4 mornings per week	=	\$620 per month
3 mornings per week	=	\$465 per month
2 mornings per week	=	\$310 per month
1 mornings per week	=	\$155 per month

NOTE!

Full tuition is charged regardless of attendance. The amount is formulated by totaling all attendance days during the regular school year. This sum is divided into equal payments, coinciding with the 1st of each month; therefore, tuition remains the same each month of the school year.

SIBLING DISCOUNT

The child enrolled for the most days per week pays full tuition. 10% is deducted from each additional sibling's fee.