

# Pleasant Hill Preschool

## *Parent Handbook*

PLEASE READ ME CAREFULLY



**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Preschool**  
**3700 Pleasant Hill Road**  
**Duluth, GA 30096**  
**770-476-8716**  
**preschool@pleasanthillpc.org**  
**www.pleasanthillpc.org/preschool**

## **The Preschool Board**

A Preschool Board governs the preschool. This board reviews the financial records, staff, classes and curriculum. The board also agrees to fees set and policies, and governs any other matters which may occur during the school year that are not already covered by the Preschool's By-Laws.

### **Our Board of Directors**

Florence Milway, Board President

Jennie Sankey (Associate Pastor for Christian Education & Middle School Youth)

Margaret Snyder

Jane Manderson

### **Preschool Director**

Gina Maguire

**Notice of Exemption:** This program is not a licensed child care facility. This program is not required to be licensed by the Georgia Department of Early Childcare and Learning and this program is exempt from state licensure requirements. PHP falls under the "*Educational programs for children two through six years of age and operate for no more than 4 consecutive hours per day.*"

## **Mission Statement**

Pleasant Hill Preschool is a Christian preschool. Our program provides a place where play becomes the tool for learning in a warm, loving environment. The curriculum nurtures the child's total growth and development through activities that are appropriate to each child's age and stage of development. Skills are introduced through materials and activities which are both child-centered and teacher-directed. Work is planned which emphasizes the process rather than the product, fostering a sense of accomplishment and pride. The program is designed to meet the child where they are, so that success is always experienced and the love of learning nurtured. The focus is on the development of the whole child with regard given to their cognitive, physical, social, emotional, and faith growth.

We value the diversity in the families who choose Pleasant Hill Preschool as the preschool to care for their children, and also invite that diversity in our staffing. We want all children in our program to develop a strong self-esteem. We believe that this goal, along with the modeling of anti-bias attitudes by adults, allows children to be accepting and understanding of others. We work hard to create a bias-free environment and ask parents to support us in this effort.

## **Goals**

1. The development of the total child is important. Areas to be included are social, emotional, physical, cognitive and spiritual development.
2. To help children know themselves as unique and important persons.
3. To provide developmentally appropriate curriculum designed to meet the needs of every child.
4. Create an anti-bias environment.
5. To give each child a strong foundation for the love of learning.

## **Philosophy**

Our Preschool will provide a quality social experience in a warm, loving Christian environment.

We realize all children pass through various stages of growth and development. Each child's development is uniquely his or her own and will be handled as such. Each child will develop positive feelings about himself/herself, his/her abilities, and development.

The time your child spends at Preschool will be happy and relaxed. Each class will follow a daily schedule so that your child will derive a sense of security.

- **Admission Policies, Enrollment, Hours and Tuition**

Children will be enrolled in PHP Preschool based on space availability. A child must turn the appropriate age by September 1<sup>st</sup> to be enrolled in the program.

Our hours are 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. No child will be admitted early for any reason. Dismissal is promptly at 1:00. Children whose parent has not arrived by 1:15 will need to be picked up in the preschool office. A late fee will be charged.

There is a non-refundable registration fee for each child. This fee is due at the time of registration. This money will be used to purchase necessary supplies for the Preschool.

Tuition fees are due the first school day of each month. Make checks payable to Pleasant Hill Preschool. Sickness, weather closings and absenteeism do not affect the amount of monthly tuition fees. If no payment has been received by the 10th, an additional \$5.00 will be assessed. Please place your check in the envelope provided and return it on your child's next day of school. In the event of a holiday, vacation, or illness, please mail your tuition to the Preschool at 3700 Pleasant Hill Rd., Duluth, GA 30096.

The annual preschool tuition is collected in nine equal monthly payments and allows for school closings. National holidays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Break. There will be no refunds made for unattended classes. If your child is going to be gone for an extended period of time (longer than one month), tuition must be paid in order to keep your child's spot. Should a student need to withdraw, thirty days written notice is requested.

- **Your Child's Day**

Your child's day will focus on learning centers, large and small group activities and independent play. These activities will allow your child to learn about himself, his relationship with his friends and his teacher. Except for simple structured games, children need to play in their own ways. The teacher steps in when a situation goes beyond the child's ability to handle it.

Small and large group time enable a child to work independently and cooperatively. Skills are developed during this time to aid your child for present and future educational experiences, (examples: listening and verbal skills, decision making, taking turns, hand-eye coordination, and cognitive development).

Children need a variety of experiences as they choose to express themselves. Art, creative movement, puppets, dress-up and music add special interest to the day. They will be used for enjoyment and developing creativity.

- **Preparation for the First Day and Every Day**

Plan your schedule so your child can be rested, unhurried, well fed and relaxed about the first morning and every other day.

Expect your child to go to school happily and to have a good time. Your own insecurity will be sensed quickly. Talk about Preschool in a positive way. Name specific activities for your child to look forward to. "You will enjoy playing on the playground!"

Use the teachers' names frequently so your child becomes familiar with them.

Read all newsletters, notes and calendars. Pay particular attention to days your child needs to bring something from home.

If your child finds the adjustment to Preschool difficult, please be patient. It can take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks for a child to feel comfortable separating from you. Perhaps a security blanket or other item is needed. Feel free to call the office and check on your child. It helps to know the tears really do stop.

All children are much happier when they arrive and dismiss at the proper time. Everything we do is important to your child. Help them by making sure they don't miss any of our preschool day.

For safe arrival and dismissal, all children must use the carpool line.

- **School Calendar**

THE PRESCHOOL FOLLOWS ITS OWN SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR.

Our school days will be similar to the Gwinnett County Public Schools. When there is a holiday for the Gwinnett County Public Schools, we will also be closed.

In case of severe weather, we will close if the Gwinnett County Public Schools are closed. Please listen to AM750 WSB, a local television station or check their website.

- **Immunization Form**

The Official Code of Georgia Annotated 20-2-771 entitled "IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS" requires all daycare centers and preschools to have on file a current immunization certificate. The only acceptable form to verify preschool immunization is DHR Form 3231. It is expected that Pleasant Hill Preschool will have the proper immunization form on file within 30 days. Failure to comply will result in your child not attending preschool until such form is present.

- **Safety**

Information about substances your child is allergic to needs to be in writing on the enrollment form. Please report any changes or new information in writing to your child's teacher.

If your child needs to be excused from any normal activity, we must have the information in writing.

Throughout the year we will have fire and tornado drills. A bell will ring to announce our practice. The teacher will say to the children, "That bell tells us to walk quickly and quietly outside", or "That bell tells us to walk quickly and quietly to the hall." Our practices will be done in an effective, non-threatening manner.

Please keep your child's teacher informed of any changes of phone numbers (home, cell, parent work, and emergency contact) in writing.

Please call the Preschool office to inform us if someone other than you or a person listed on the registration form will be picking up your child. Please leave a message on the answering machine if necessary before 12:50. All messages are checked before carpool time.

The doors to our Preschool wing will remain locked during Preschool hours. If you need to enter our wing, please do so by using the church's main entrance door.

- **Point of Refuge**

Should there be a reason for the Preschool to vacate our building and church property, our Point of Refuge will be W. P. Jones Park. The park is located adjacent to the church property.

- **Health**

The Preschool assumes that responsible parents will not send children to school who show any sign of illness, such as a runny nose, red throat, excessive coughing, skin rash, fever, diarrhea, etc. We insist, for their own sake and the protection of the other children, that they be kept at home under these conditions. If any of these symptoms appear at school, parents will be notified to come for them. If parents cannot be reached, we will contact the people listed as emergency contacts. Children should be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school.

Please let us know within 24 hours if your child contracts a contagious or communicable disease (such as chicken pox, strep, pink eye, lice, viral infections, the flu, mumps, measles, hand/foot/mouth, Fifth disease, etc.), and we in turn will notify other parents as necessary. You may phone the Preschool at 770.476.8716 or email us at preschool@pleasanthillpc.org.

**Children with a rash will be sent home. We must have a written notice from your child's doctor stating that he/she allowed back into the school.** This is a precautionary measure to ensure that your child is not suffering from something that could be contagious to the other children in the preschool and is based on the recommendation of several pediatricians in this area. While we realize some rashes occur after a child is no longer contagious, this can only be determined by a doctor's visual examination of your child. Most diseases with rashes are highly contagious; this rule is in place for the protection of all children using the facilities.

If your child has an allergy of any kind, please see that we have written information explaining this and what the reactions are.

- **Medication**

No medication of any kind (topical or oral) will be given at our school. The only exception is emergency medication for asthma and life threatening allergies.

**EPI-PENS – Some children have health concerns, which require an EPI-PEN and/or an inhaler. Parents of these children will need to contact the preschool office to complete a permission form allowing preschool staff to administer a treatment if needed. Parents will need to leave an EPI-PEN with the school. PLEASE CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE BEFORE LEAVING EPI-PEN WITH THE PRESCHOOL.**

- **Clothing and Possessions**

Mark any removable clothing, books, or other items with your child's name. Lunch boxes and food containers MUST be labeled.

Dress your child in clothing for play that is durable, comfortable and easily managed by the child. Since we go outside whenever possible, dress your child accordingly. Select shoes that give support and allow freedom of movement. Loose sandals, cowboy boots and shoes that slip off easily inhibit activity and are NOT allowed. Tennis shoes are encouraged.

We cannot be responsible for ruined clothing or lost articles.

Comfort things - bears, blankets, etc. - may be brought if needed. Please be sure they have your child's name attached.

Please send extra clothing in your child's bookbag, (for all ages) every day.

Please send your child's bookbag every day. If you choose to supply your own bookbag, it must be large enough to hold a lunch box, extra clothes and daily papers. Please use hand-held book bags and not backpacks.

Please do not allow your children to bring toys to school unless a teacher has asked them to do so (show-n-tell, etc.).

- **Special Snacks and Meals**

Children will bring their own lunch and drink every day. We are unable to microwave or refrigerate food for any child.

Children need to bring their lunches in lunch boxes. We encourage parents to pack nutritional lunches including all food groups. Please include a napkin and a spoon if needed. Label all lunch boxes and containers with your child's name. Please send fruit and veggies that have been cut into **small** pieces.

Children will be encouraged to eat their "growing" food first. Desserts will be offered when most of their growing food has been eaten. Please do not send candy, peanuts, popcorn or hotdogs in the lunch box.

We are not banning sugary foods from the classroom; rather we are limiting the consumption of sugary sweets. Making the best quality food available for our children is of course essential for their future health and well being. Choices of natural unsweetened juices, fruits, raisins, crackers and veggies are best.

- **Birthdays**

Birthdays are special, and we celebrate after lunch in a SIMPLE manner. You may share a treat for the class (cupcakes, cookies, fruit, yogurt, or ice cream). NO party invitations, favors, balloons, thank you notes or goodie bags may be given out or sent home as part of the birthday celebration. Children with summer birthdays may arrange a day to celebrate during the school year. Please remember, NO BALLOONS OR CANDLES are allowed.

- **Visitation and Conferences**

You are welcome to visit the classrooms at any time except the first four weeks of school. Children need this time to adjust to the separation. Since the teacher's first responsibility is to the children, DO NOT expect a conference while classes are in session.

Changes at home do affect a child's behavior at school. Please share information that will make us more sensitive to your child's needs.

You may request a conference at any time during the school year. Please write a note to the teacher so that a mutually convenient time may be scheduled.

Mandatory conferences for 4's will be held in late winter. Conferences for 2's and 3's are strongly encouraged. Our preference is to meet with both parents. Telephone conferences can occur if scheduling is a problem.

**All teachers have morning and after school responsibilities, therefore the morning carpool drop-off and afternoon pick-up are not appropriate times to discuss personal issues concerning your child.**

- **Discipline**

Discipline in our school will focus on the positive behaviors that are expected. Simple and clear rules will be established in each classroom. Review of the rules will occur throughout the year. A child will be treated in a positive manner with a gentle reminder of the rules. Redirecting a child is often times all that is needed to eliminate certain behaviors. Our teachers may use the option of time out. Under no circumstances will corporal punishment be used.

- **Biting**

Biting cannot be tolerated. If a child bites another child, written notification will be sent to both sets of parents. If the same child bites a second time, the parents will be required to pick the child up from school immediately. A meeting will be scheduled with the teachers, parents, and administration to determine if the child will be allowed to continue in the program (the child will not be allowed to attend school prior to this meeting).

- **Students with Special Needs**

The Preschool Board reserves the right to withdraw any child having a physical, mental or emotional condition, which, in the Board's and Director's judgement, poses a possible threat to the health, welfare or safety of other students. The preschool further reserves the right to dismiss a child if this child is requiring supervision above and beyond reasonable limits, or is restricting a teacher's time or ability to work with the other children in the classroom.

The preschool cannot accommodate any child having a physical, mental, or emotional condition, which requires special supervision, or handling and/or which requires the dedication of special facilities or teachers for the child.

If your child is having speech or occupational therapy, it will be necessary for the teacher to be made aware of this. Arrangements will need to be made for a classroom or space to be used if the session is not taking place in the classroom. It would also be beneficial to receive a report from the therapist, so that we may be more helpful in working with your child.

- **Excessive Behavioral Issues**

If the teachers and Director agree that all appropriate measures have been taken to handle behavior issues and these measures are not working, the Preschool will request time with the parents to discuss the issues. Most situations can be resolved when the parents and preschool staff work together. The preschool further reserves the right to dismiss a child if this child is requiring supervision above and beyond reasonable limits, or is restricting a teacher's time or ability to work with the other children in the classroom.

- **Bathroom Policy**

The following guidelines have been established:

**2 year old program** - Children who are not yet trained will be changed as necessary. The preschool expects the children to come to school in a clean dry diaper. Diapers and wipes are to be furnished by the parents. Children who are trained will be assisted in the bathroom as needed. (Clothing, wiping, flushing, handwashing)

When a child is getting ready to be trained, the parents need to speak with their child's teacher to be sure they both feel the child is ready to begin training in the school environment. Please try to begin training during a school vacation so that the child has the best chance to succeed at school. Please remember, the teachers will cooperate as much as possible, but they cannot be expected to take an individual child to the bathroom every 20-30 minutes. Please include a change of clothes, underpants and socks in the child's school bag and replace when necessary. The teachers will ask the child in training at least 3 times a day if they would like to use the bathroom, but we will never under any circumstances force a child to sit on the toilet. As you train your child at home, please keep in mind that "training" a child includes wiping, flushing, hand washing, and cleanliness of the bathroom. When children are learning bathroom use, it is best to avoid overalls, snaps, belts, zippers, tights, and hose. Elastic waist pants are best.

**3 year old program** - Most children are trained by this age. Those who are will be expected to use the bathroom independently and leave it clean. Flushing the potty, wiping, pulling up and down clothing and washing hands are independent skills we expect of each child. Three year olds who are not trained must attend Preschool in Pull-Ups. These children will be changed as necessary. There are no diaper changing areas in these rooms. As you train your child at home, please keep in mind that "training" a child also includes wiping, flushing and independent redressing. At Preschool we verbally encourage children to assist self. If this is not possible, we will assist the child.

**4 year old program** - All children are expected to be totally independent in all areas of bathroom use. (Clothing, wiping, flushing, handwashing, cleanliness of bathroom)

- **Monthly Calendars and Newsletters**

Each teacher will prepare a monthly calendar and newsletter which will be sent home at the beginning of each month. Please read both carefully and post them in a place where you may refer to them often. The calendar will be your notice of a special event, activity or a special need of the classroom. If your child does not receive a calendar and newsletter, please send a note to the teacher.

- **Carpools**

Our morning carpool line begins at 9:25 and ends at 9:40 a.m.

Parents may arrange their own carpool with friends or neighbors. Please provide this information in writing to the teacher.

Name cards will be provided to each driver to identify carpools during dismissal time. They need to be hung from the rear view mirror.

When dropping off and picking up your child in the carpool line, please remember we need to do this as quickly as possible. Please do not block the driveway for any reason. Please pull into a parking space to buckle up your child.

Children dropped off after 9:40 MUST be walked to their classroom. Do not allow your child to walk to the classroom alone.

If someone other than you or a person listed on the registration form is to pick up your child, we must have a written note. If this is not possible, please call the Preschool before 12:50. Your child will not be given to someone we are not expecting.

For safety reasons, all children must use the morning and afternoon carpool line.

- **Emergency Closings**

Rarely does any preschool have to close due to illness or contagious health reasons of the children or staff. However, if more than 2/3rds of our children should be sick or affected on any given preschool day, we reserve the right to close our Preschool until we feel the brunt of the illness or reason has passed.

Should the staff of the Preschool have a high absentee rate of more than 50%, and no substitute can be found, we reserve the right to close the school until it is determined that we have enough teachers/substitutes to safely have Preschool.

Should there be any structural damage or condition to our building that would make it unsafe or unsuitable to occupy the building, we reserve the right to close the school.

Should severe weather occur or be predicted after Gwinnett County Schools have opened for that day, we reserve the right to close the school.

Every means and consideration will be given to notify parents of an emergency closing. If there is no time, or not enough time to call the parents, a note will be posted in our morning carpool line, if possible, alerting you to the closing.

- **Stormy Weather Carpool Instructions**

Fortunately we do not have to deal with stormy weather often, but when we do, we have the following instructions.

1. If there is lightning during morning or afternoon carpool, we do not continue assistance in or out of the car. All parents will need to come into the building to drop off or pick up the child.
2. If we are advised of dangerous conditions (tornado watch or warning, severe downpour, hail) or if they are occurring, we will not begin our morning/afternoon carpool. Parents are urged to come into the building for safety reasons until weather conditions improve.
3. Should snow, sleet or any dangerous condition begin during Preschool hours, please make arrangements for immediate pick up of your child.

- **Making Up Days Missed**

If more than 5 days are missed due to weather or other unavoidable conditions, these days will be made up at the discretion of the Preschool Committee.

- **Termination of Enrollment**

A one-month written notice of withdrawal is required. You will be responsible for tuition unless this is given to the Director. It is requested a note be sent to the Director and teacher informing us of any change.

- **Stitches, Casts and other Circumstances**

We do our best to accommodate children with temporary inconveniences such as stitches, casts, crutches, etc. A child must have a letter from his/her doctor informing us of the child's abilities while at school. This letter must be given to the Director before the child will be allowed to remain in school. The Director may confer with the Preschool Committee to determine if the child can remain in school during the time of recovery.

- **Parent Participation**

Parents are encouraged to participate in various activities in the Preschool program such as:

- ~ volunteering for special events
- ~ signing up to be a mystery reader in your child's classroom.
- ~ parents with special music abilities might bring instruments to school to play.
- ~ help with parties and other special events.
- ~ cut out pictures and make simple games.
- ~ teacher appreciation.

- **Cell Phone Use Policy**

For the safety and wellbeing of the children at the preschool, a cell phone should never be used while driving on the church's property, during carpool, pick up time, or while attending an event. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

PLEASANT HILL PRESCHOOL DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE IN ITS ENROLLMENT BASED ON RACE, COLOR, SEX, CREED, ETHNIC OR RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND. CHILDREN WITH MILD PHYSICAL HANDICAPS AND/OR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS ARE ENROLLED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESCHOOL COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR.

# CARPOOL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

## MORNING CARPOOL

Beginning the first day of school all cars will enter the church property using the main entrance on Pleasant Hill Road or by turning left on Park Bluff Lane, then immediately turning left into the first entrance into the church parking lot. When you enter you will immediately turn left and continue circling the long way around the parking lot. (This will eliminate cars being stuck in the turn lane on Pleasant Hill Rd.) Continue until you approach the portico that is located in front of the sanctuary. At 9:25 our teachers will begin unloading the children. We ask that you unbuckle your child(ren) right before it is your turn to unload. All children must exit from the passenger's side of the car onto the sidewalk. This will avoid children and teachers having to walk between the cars. As soon as your child unloads you may slowly proceed to exit the church property. If you arrive at school after 9:40, walk your child to his/her classroom. No child may enter the building alone. Please enter through the main doors of the church. (not the portico doors)

## AFTERNOON CARPOOL

Afternoon carpool will follow the same procedure as morning carpool. We will begin loading the cars at 1:00. Each afternoon you will need to hang the name card from your rearview mirror. All children will get into the car directly from the sidewalk. Please pull to the first available parking place to buckle your child into the car seat.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Hangers with name cards have been provided to you so that the teachers know which car to put the child(ren) in. Please place the hanger on your rear view mirror so that the name is clearly visible to us.
- Names for each child riding home with you must be on the card. If needed, please ask a teacher for an extra one.
- If your child is extremely upset in the morning carpool line, please pull into the first available parking space and walk your child to the Gathering Room.
- DO NOT allow a child to lean out of a car window or sunroof, or open the car door.
- We ask that you refrain from using your cell phone during morning and afternoon carpool time. Attention from all adults keeps our carpool safe.
- Please drive slowly at all times.
- It is most important that you do not pull around a car that is in line unless a teacher has instructed you to.
- Please put your car in Park as your child is loading and unloading the car.
- Drive to the first available parking space to buckle up your child. This will keep our carpool line from backing up.
- It takes the attention, cooperation and patience of all parents to keep our carpool safe and running smoothly. We thank you for your help.

# Pleasant Hill Preschool

## 2017-2018 Calendar

Tues., August 29	Parent Orientation 7:00pm
Wed., August 30	Children's Open House
Tues., September 5	First day for 2, 4 and 5 day children
Wed., September 6	First day for 3 day children
<i>We will begin our school year with a gradual introduction to Preschool. The first 4 days of school our hours will be 9:30 - 12:00.</i>	
Week of September 11 <sup>th</sup>	School hours change to 9:30 - 1:00
Wed., September 27	Early Release 12:00
Thurs., September 28	Early Release 12:00
Mon., October 9	Gwinnett County Student Holiday
Mon., Nov 20 - Fri., November 24	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon., Dec. 18 - Wed., January 3	Christmas Holidays
Thurs., January 4	2, 4 and 5 day children return
Fri., January 5	3 day children return
Mon., January 15	Holiday - MLK Jr. Day
Fri., February 9	Gwinnett County Teacher/Student
Holiday	
Mon., February 19	Gwinnett County Student Holiday
Wed., February 21	Early Release 12:00
Thurs., February 22	Early Release 12:00
Fri, February 23	Gwinnett County Teacher/Student
Holiday	
Fri., March 9	Gwinnett County Teacher/Student
Holiday	
Fri., March 23	Gwinnett County Teacher/Student
Holiday Mon., April 2 - Fri., April 6	Spring Break
Tues., May 15	Last day for 2
Wed., May 16	Last day for 3, 4 and 5 day children

Please note that this calendar does not contain any of our special events and in-house guests. You will find that information in your child's monthly calendar and newsletter that are sent home.

# GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Children need an environment at home and school that will encourage them to learn, grow and be happy. Helping each child develop to his or her full potential socially, emotionally, physically, cognitively and spiritually is a tremendous responsibility for parents and teachers. Knowledge of child growth and development will enable us to know what behavior and characteristics we can expect in children at different ages. In answering the question, “What is *best* for my child?” consider the following:

1. Children develop in stages and the sequence of these stages is the same. Development follows predictable patterns.
2. There are large differences in the rate at which children develop. Even when children are the same chronological age, their level of knowledge and skills will vary widely.
3. Development is often uneven. Children may develop more quickly in some areas than others.
4. Development proceeds from simple to complex and from general to specific. Each skill is built on a simpler one until the child learns more refined skills and concepts.
5. Learning proceeds from the concrete to the abstract. Children need real-life experiences interacting with concrete objects in order to construct knowledge.
6. Development cannot be “taught” or hurried. If children are forced to perform beyond their abilities, it may damage their self-concept or cause negative attitudes about school.
7. Children have different styles of learning, as well as different interests, needs, and motivations.
8. Intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual developments are intricately interwoven. It is important to develop a well-rounded child with experiences in all the domains.

## WHAT ARE THE MAJOR AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT?

*Physical Development* – This involves the way children use their large and small muscles. Large muscles are used for activities such as walking, running and throwing; small muscles are used for drawing, writing, feeding and dressing.

*Social Development* – Social development refers to how children interact with other children and adults in their lives. Social skills include sharing, cooperating, and following rules.

*Emotional Development* – Emotional development includes children’s feelings about themselves, their self-esteem, and their ability to express their feelings.

*Language Development* – Language development refers to children’s ability to listen, understand, and speak and eventually to read and write.

*Cognitive or Intellectual Development* – Intellectual development involves children’s ability to think, reason, and solve problems. It includes forming concepts, remembering ideas, and recognizing objects.

*Spiritual Development* – Children will see themselves as children of God – unique and valuable. They will learn that they are loved. They will experience stories of God’s love, songs and art activities that are age appropriate.