



The Creek

Preschool & Kindergarten

Parent Handbook 2020-2021

Be
STRONG AND
COURAGEOUS.
Do Not be Afraid
FOR *The Lord* **God**
is with you
JOSHUA 1:9

Dear Parents:

Now more than ever, our theme verse for the school stands as a reminder of the great and mighty power of our God. We thank you for entrusting your children to us.

My hope is that your children leave us empowered in His strength, full of confidence, love, and the courage to do the right thing, even when it's scary.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to partner with you to make a difference in the lives of your children.

Stefanie Carlson
Director

Important Contact Info

School Phone: (714) 633-0402

After Hours Voicemail: (714) 497-0581

Email: info@thecreekpreschool.org

Web Site: www.thecreekpreschool.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/TheCreekPreschool

Billing Questions:
tuition@thecreekpreschool.org

School Address:
250 S Prospect St.
Orange CA 92869

Mission & Ministry

The Creek Preschool is an extension of Revive Covenant Church, serving the community around us, offering a Scripture-based program that blends developmental and academic techniques. The school provides hands on learning experiences that prepare each child for his/her future schooling and most importantly to prepare him/her to give God the glory that is due Him by choosing to follow Him.

Worship Opportunities

As this goes to print, Revive is currently offering online worship services and children's ministry meetings via Zoom... but once we can safely reopen again we would love to have you come to our weekly worship services, small group Bible studies, and Sunday school classes!

Further information about the church is available through the church office at (714) 633-6464 or on the web at www.revivecov.church or for children's programming information, contact Mrs. Jennifer at Jennifer@revivecov.church

Entrance Requirements

Enrollment in our school is open to children 2.0 years through Kindergarten.

Preschool: Children must be at least 2.0 years of age to start with us. This class is allowed to be in diapers or pull-ups if needed. Please see the potty training section in the handbook for more information.

Pre-Kindergarten: Children must be 4 by Dec 1, 2020 and potty-trained.

Transitional Kindergarten: Children must be 5 between July 1 & Dec 1 2020 and potty-trained. Children with birthdays between Dec. 2, 2020 and March 1, 2021 must test in.

Kindergarten: Children must be 5 by Dec. 1, 2020 and potty-trained.

Please pack your child's bucket with the following:

- A change of clothes, just in case
- Snack (2 food groups!)
- Lunch (2 food groups!)
- Diaper kit with wipes if needed

Please do not bring toys to school.

Philosophy Statement

Teachers are the builders of this country. We are responsible to provide the population of this country with the correct tools to get them through life. It is through education that we plan to facilitate growth that will enable children to evolve into good citizens that participate in life. We will seek to teach children how to make decisions for themselves through self-discovery.

It is important that the children not only learn from the teachers, but also from each other. To accomplish this, we will seek to provide a non-threatening atmosphere where we will encourage the children to take chances and explore unfamiliar concepts. It is through collaboration in small and large groups of children as well as independent and whole class work that the children will develop the ability to think and make decisions for themselves, as well as to work well with other children.

We will teach critical thinking and problem solving questions that are developmentally appropriate. We will connect the real world to the classroom so that the children understand how their knowledge can be used. We will provide hands-on experiences with the help of manipulatives in order for the students to take abstract information and make it more concrete.

Our staff will provide a preschool whose basic Christian experience, beliefs, and practices are consistent with God's word concerning the education of young children and the teachings/educational philosophy of the church and school. Our program makes Christ preeminent in all that we do. In light of this, we hope that the weekday staff, other church staff, lay leadership, and other church members will view our preschool programs as a ministry of the church deserving the necessary support to be successful in its mission.

What to Bring to School:

Students are not required to wear masks or other face coverings while at school. If you send your child to school with a face mask, your child will need to be able to independently remove and replace it as needed. Staff will not assist in replacing of the mask should your child decide not to wear the mask; it will be placed with your child's belongings for end of day pick up.

Necessary Paperwork

The school is regulated by the State of California through the Orange County Department of Social Services. In order to meet state licensing regulations, it is **mandatory that all forms be completed and returned to us before your child can start school.**

If you move, change phone numbers, or need to modify who is allowed to pick up your child from school come into the office and update the forms. We use this information to reach you in an emergency and to keep your child safe—it is important that we have accurate information at all times.

If your child has need of medication during the school day please stop in at the office to sign off on a medical release form for the office staff to give your child the medicine or to make arrangements for you to come back to disperse the medicine. Teachers cannot disperse medicine.

First Days of School

We are starting the year with just our academic day to ease into the new routine.... We've changed up Orientation Day a bit this year & will not be holding the parent meeting on the first day. Instead, we trust that you will familiarize yourself with the Parent Handbook & the Policy Updates for COVID that we have put into place, and contact the office if you should have any questions.

The first days of school will be August 24 & August 25 from 9am-noon only. (Yes, that's for Green Room too). We will start the 8am-3pm schedule on Wed. August 26!

School Calendar

We do our best to make sure that the dates on our calendar do not change. Please keep these dates with you throughout the year as they will keep you informed of many important events. We hope to be able to add back in many of the events as the year progresses, and our calendars will be updated as the year goes on.

Our preschool does not have a prescribed number of days in its school year. We follow as closely as possible the Orange Unified School District traditional calendar.

Parking

It is a matter of safety that all children be walked to their classrooms from the SOUTH parking lot. Please do not park in the fire lane adjacent to the school. (Those gates are not entrances, they are emergency exits only).

In addition, please **do not leave children, purses, or other valuables in the car** when you are going in to drop off or pick up your child. It is not only unsafe to leave your child in the car, but illegal.

Communication

Our teachers and staff members are here to help. We want to hear from you, whether you have a question, a problem, or just need to talk to someone.

The office sends out the monthly reminders for the school by email, including updated monthly calendars for you to download. If you are not receiving our emails, or need to add a family member's email address, please check in with us so we can add you to the list.

We're also on Facebook, so "like" and "follow" The Creek Page and join the Creek Families group and you'll get updates in your news feed! Don't forget to check out the parent bulletin board outside the office for all the latest postings.

In addition, each teacher sends home their monthly newsletter detailing classroom specific events and lesson plan objectives for the month.

Buckets: Communication between school and home is facilitated by the use of a bucket. We use it to send home notices and artwork and your kids keep their jackets, lunch, share toys, etc. in it.

While you can purchase a bucket anywhere, we recommend something from the car wash aisle as they're larger and more durable than your average sand-castle making bucket. Decorating your bucket is a fun way of getting ready for the school year. Make sure to put your child's name on the bucket.

Please keep a full change of clothes (including socks & shoes if possible) in your child's bucket at all times. Even potty trained children sometimes need a change of clothes.

Arrival & Dismissal

Regular School hours are:

Kindergarten/TK	8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Preschool/Pre-K	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Extended Day Care	8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

(Extended Care— 8am-3pm- starts Wed. Aug. 26)

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures

All children must be brought to school and picked up from school by a person **18 years** or older. **The state requires that you sign your child in/out using full legible names.**

COVID-19 Updates for drop off & pick up:

- Only students and staff will be allowed to enter the classroom.
- Only one adult should be dropping off/picking up a child to minimize exposure
- As students enter the room, they are to immediately sanitize their hands at the dispenser or to go to the student bathroom to wash their hands, depending on the room configuration
- If you have other children who are not Creek students with you, they must stay with you & are restricted from entering the classroom as well.
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) asks that you bring your own pen.
- If there is a queue to enter the room, please maintain 6 feet of social distancing between households using the chalked hearts for spacing.
- It is mandated by the CDPH that all adults wear face coverings at pick up and drop off.
- All drop off and pick up visits need to be kept as brief as possible.

Arrival

Children cannot be dropped off at school earlier than 5 minutes before the regular start time. Parents may not leave the child if the teacher is not present in the classroom.

Parents are to check children's temperatures before arrival (please also check your own too).

When students are signed in, parents will be asked to attest to our COVID-19 screening questions, including whether anyone in the household has had symptoms in the past 48 hours or a positive Covid-19 test.

Thermometer temperature checks will be utilized if a fever is suspected.

Please do not visit with your child's at drop off – We need to be transitioning the children into the classroom during this time. Staff is available most days after school, and by appointment.

Dismissal and Pick Up

It is very important that children be picked up on time as many children experience anxiety when they see other mommies picking up but their own is not there.

Pick-up times are:

12:00	Preschool/Pre-K/ Kindergarten
by 3:00	Extended Day

Children on the academic day schedule who are not picked up by noon will be taken to the office to wait; we cannot 'upgrade' your child to lunch bunch at this time.

Children who remain on campus past 3:00pm at closing will go to the office. You will be charged \$1 for every minute after 3:05pm, payable at the time of pick up.

Your child will not be released to anyone (other than a parent or legal guardian) who is not listed on your emergency information sheet. Please make sure you update the list in the office, or send a **written note** for the days a new person is to pick up.

If the teacher does not recognize the adult who is picking up your child the teacher will ask them to stop in at the office to be verified. They will need to show ID.

If a non-custodial parent is not to pick up your child we must have an official restraining order or other legal paperwork in our files.

Parents/Visitors

Normally we'd say that parents are always welcome on campus, and while we love you, COVID procedures necessitate that you make your stop-ins for drop in & pick up brief. We are planning to be able to bring back the special on campus family events once it is safe to do so.

Financial Information

Registration

In-house registration begins the first week in February for the coming school year to give our school families the first opportunity to reserve a place for fall. Registration opens to the public March 1.

Registration is \$200 per child. Registration helps cover expenses for curriculum, materials, field trips, and disaster kits. The registration fee is non-refundable. It is separate from your tuition payments.

Tuition for 2020-2021

Days	9am-12pm	8am-3pm
T&Th	\$2650/year (\$265/month)	\$3400/year (\$340/month)
MWF	\$3450/year (\$345/month)	\$4600/year (\$460/month)
M-F	\$4800/year (\$480/month)	\$6550/year (\$655/month)

5 Day TK/K 8:30am-12pm: \$5000 (\$500/month)
3 Day TK: 8:30-12:00 MWF: \$3500 (\$350/month)
5 Day TK/K w/ Extended Care (8am-3pm): \$6550 (\$655/month)
3 Day TK w/ Extended Care (8am-3pm): \$4600 (\$460/month)

- Revive church members receive 10% off their monthly tuition payments.
- The second sibling receives 10% off their monthly tuition payment. (Taken off lowest tuition rate)

Payment Plan: We have divided the year's tuition into ten equal monthly payments due on the 15th of each month starting August 15 and ending May 15. This payment will be made by Zelle, check or cash.

If you are one or more months behind on your payment plan or any past due charges, we reserve the right to cancel your enrollment effective immediately. Returned checks or EFT processes are assessed a \$30 fee per occurrence.

Absences and Vacations:

We do not refund tuition for time missed due to illness, family vacations, or other absences. Our tuition already accounts for standard school closures for holidays.

Cancellation Policy:

Refund of tuition is based on the time of notification of withdrawal from the school.

A 30 days *written notice* is required, so that any monies prepaid over that amount can be refunded. Include your child's last day on the notice. We also have withdrawal forms in the office.

The Creek does not do refunds on the monthly payment plan. You are encouraged to complete the month that you have pre-paid and to have the last day on the 14th of the month. Written notice is still required.

Extended Hour Programs

At this time we will not be able to add "bonus days" or lunch bunch, extended day or early birds, in order to maintain the security of our pods.

If you need care past noon, or early drop off between 8am and your class start at 8:30/9am, please contact the office to change your child's schedule. Our extended hour classes will also be sorted into pods, with a focus on minimizing the cross contamination of the morning classroom pods.

During the extended hours, the students have lunch, a recess, cool down time with afternoon circle, story time and finger plays. They'll go from there to the main activity of the day: an art project or sensory activity. There will be free play, maybe another trip out to the playground, and a lot of fun!

Schedule Changes:

Should you wish to change your child's schedule mid-year to a different class, we will do our best to accommodate your needs as long as there is room in another classroom. We require a week's written notice to change the schedule so that the new teacher can be prepared for your child's entry to the classroom. There is a \$25 fee for class changes as new materials need to be purchased for your child to use in that room.

Changing your hours (adding extended day or changing to academic day only programs) does not incur a schedule change fee for the first change. Additional changes will be billed \$15 per change.

Academic Day to Extended Day Change: You will be billed the \$5 an hour rate for time actually stayed outside of your academic day hours up until the 15th of the month, when your schedule change takes effect; at that point you will be billed for the Extended Day Package Schedule.

Extended Day to Academic Day Change: Financially, your change becomes effective on the 15th of the month you change, when your account will be billed for the academic day rate for your schedule. Until that time you will have the option of sending your child to extended day to finish off that month's extended day package.

After School Enrichment Programs

The Creek typically offers several enrichment programs after school starting at 1pm on campus however those programs are currently suspended. We hope to be able to bring back our sports, dance and martial arts classes later in the school year!

Curriculum

Our school is a mix of academic and developmental approaches to learning. We believe in introducing academic concepts to the children at their appropriate developmental level. Our experienced teachers will often supplement the curriculum materials provided to tailor their lessons to their classes interests and skill levels.

We believe in integrating biblical learning throughout the school day. We have a "Hands on Bible" full of wonderful age-appropriate devotionals that we will be working through over the course of the year. STEAM experiences provide children the opportunity to explore science, technology, engineering and math concepts through creative, concrete hands-on activities and materials. STEAM in our curriculum is a fun process of learning centers-based opportunities to explore, create, build, experiment, and imagine while learning about important core science and math concepts.

TK & Kindergarten: This class works with ABEKA, a Christian academic curriculum that meets all the state standards for kindergarten education in reading, math, language arts, social studies, science and more but also has a Bible Based learning component too.

We supplement our ABEKA curriculum with materials from Scholastic.

Kindergarten students promote to first grade.
TK students promote to kindergarten.

Pre-K: Our four year olds use Zoo Phonics, a great phonics based program that uses sight, sound, and movement to teach letter concepts. This language development program also has math, science, art, social science, music and movement components that engage children's minds and bodies.

Preschoolers: Our two & three year olds participate in a fun program that integrates academic concepts into the monthly theme exploration with our Zoo Phonics program alphabet animals. Children will be introduced to colors, numbers, and letter concepts as well as art, imaginative play, music and movement. Our two's room serves as an introduction to school experiences and skills while our three's room builds upon this with pre-writing skills and more formal instruction blocks.

Food and Mealtime

All children must bring a snack to school each day that consists of two different food groups: grains, proteins, dairy, vegetables, or fruits.

Do not send foods with your child that require a microwave or heating. We recommend ice packs for foods that need to remain chilled.

Water, treats such as cookies, chips, or candy are considered 'extras' and do NOT count towards the 2 food groups. 100% juice counts as a serving of fruit; anything less than 100% is an extra.

Lunch must also meet the 2 food groups requirement. If your child is staying for lunch please pack the lunch in a separate bag. This not only ensures that your child doesn't also eat his/her lunch for snack (and thus has nothing left at noon) but ensures that each meal your child has on campus is in compliance with state law.

Students are not to share their food – not even among member of the same household.

Staff will assist with opening/closing of food items as needed.

If we are in violation of the food requirements, we are fined by the state. Failure to provide a snack with two healthy food groups will result in a reminder card being sent home with your child and a \$5 fee added to your monthly bill per occurrence.

Parties & Celebrations

We will have party days to celebrate Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and the last day of school. They will be modified from previous years, and updates will be provided as these occasions draw nearer.

Birthday celebrations are encouraged, however, they are limited to individually packaged or separated items - please check in with your child's teacher for allergies and logistics on this prior to the celebration day.

Music

The music program with an outside provider has been suspended, however, we will continue with music and movement fun in our individual classrooms!

Chapel

Our chapel program is currently suspended. We look forward to bringing back this time of group worship and learning once it's safe to have whole school gatherings again. We remain committed to providing time for age-appropriate Bible learning in the classrooms.

Field Trips

Both on campus and off campus field trips are currently suspended, though we have included the Field Trip authorization form in your student packet so that once we can start bringing these fun experiences back, we're set to do so!

Appropriate Dress

Here are a few things to keep in mind regarding clothing for school:

- Only closed-toe shoes are allowed. Tennis shoes are great for play. Remember, we spend part of our day outside in the sand and wood chips of the playground so wear play shoes! Sandals or any shoe that has open toes are not permitted.
- Try and choose school clothing that allows your child to take care of their bathroom needs

independently—we're here to help it helps to avoid belts, snaps, buttons or buckles unless your child can do it "all by myself!"

- Wear clothing that can stand the wear of school: painting, sandboxes, markers, etc. can be messy!
- Jackets and sweaters are needed many mornings. Please make sure to label them with your child's name so we can get them back to you.
- *Please check for all the clothing your child had in the morning before you leave school for the day. Things are more easily found on the day they are worn than they are the next day or week.

Label your jackets, sweaters, and lunch pails. Any items not picked up by the last day of school will be donated.

Potty Training

PreK, TK and Kindergarten students must be potty trained. But if your preschool child (2's or 3's class) is not yet potty trained, it's okay to come to school in diapers or pull ups! You provide your own pull-ups and wipes. There are no additional fees.

As your child is ready to transition to pull ups or to underwear, let us know and we'll transition with you at school! If your child is transitioning to underwear, please make sure to have multiple sets of changes of clothing in the buckets.

Allergy Alert

If you child has food allergies, be aware that there is a potential for them to come in contact with foods that may cause an allergic reaction.

- We are not a peanut free campus
- **Snack & Lunch:** Children bring their own snacks and lunches, and snack and lunch is not to be shared.
- **Cooking projects:** currently suspended
- **Class Parties/Birthday Parties:** If your child can't have items at a special treat occasion, you can always send a substitute from home that you know is safe. We will do our best to let you know about birthday celebrations ahead of time.

Medicine & Illness

Your child's health is important to us. We want to protect your child and all the children in our program. **State law requires that we have only healthy children in attendance.**

Do not bring your sick child to school. Children who appear ill when they arrive will not be admitted.

COVID-19 Update If you or your child has been sick, all household members should stay home until they've been **fever-free without medication for at least 72 hours or 14 days after a COVID-19 positive test.**

No one with a fever of 100.4 or higher is allowed on campus. This includes parents or caregivers who are dropping off or picking up.

Parents are to check children's temperatures before arrival (*please also check your own too*). *When students are signed in, parents will be asked to attest to our COVID-19 screening questions, including whether anyone in the household has had symptoms in the past 48 hours or a positive Covid-19 test.* Thermometer temperature checks will be utilized if a fever is suspected.

Staff will continue to monitor student health throughout the day.

If your child becomes ill at school, we will isolate him or her until you can pick up. Please make sure your emergency forms are current and update any contact information, especially phone numbers! Per the Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment & Consent for Medical Treatment forms on file, we reserve the right to call for emergency services should your child develop symptoms of acute respiratory illness that appear life threatening.

We will continue to encourage all students to use "respiratory etiquette" – covering their cough, using a tissue, and utilizing our trashcans for disposal. And our handwashing policy – after restroom use, on return from the playground, and after eating – remains in effect.

Should we have confirmation of a COVID-19 exposure at The Creek, we will notify all families immediately through our email system. We may need to close the campus for cleaning, or shift staffing for quarantine precautions.

If we have a confirmed Covid-19 exposure or confirmed case at The Creek – student or staff - we are required to notify the California Department of Public Health and file a report with Licensing. We may also need to close a classroom, and the decision for this will be made under the current CDPH Guidelines for Schools.

For all other health situations, your child will need to be kept at home if he/she:

- Has vomited in the last 24 hours
- Is taking antibiotics and has not been on the antibiotic for 24 hours
- Has had diarrhea, even if caused by taking an antibiotic, in the last 24 hours
- Has eye discharge or crust. Must wait 24 hours after starting medication for conjunctivitis (pink eye) and eye must be free of redness or discharge before returning to school.
- Has croup. Your child must stay out until the fever and cough are gone.
- Has a constant runny nose (& no official doctor's diagnosis for allergies).
- Has an undiagnosed body rash. Doctor's note is required to return.
- Has a doctor's appointment for a suspected illness. Please do not bring your child to class prior to the appointment.
- Has head lice. Child must remain at home until treatment is completed and lice and nits are gone.
- Has ringworm. Unless completely covered by clothing, child must remain at home for 48 hours after beginning treatment.

Administration of Medicine:

If your child is on medication for any condition or illness and it will need to be distributed during school hours, please contact the office. State law requires a release form to be signed for each and every day that medication is to be given. A parent/guardian or office staff member are the only people allowed to distribute medicine.

Prescription medicines must be in the bottle in which the pharmacist dispensed it. Do not leave medicine in your child's bucket. It needs to be kept in the school office.

Special Situations:

- **Inhalers:** Form "Nebulizer Care Consent/Verification" (LIC9166) to be filled out and on file with the inhaler. Inhalers will be returned to the parent/guardian at the conclusion of the need or upon the student's final day on campus, whichever comes first.
- **Epipens:** For children who have been issued an epipen for emergency use, the medication is stored in the school office. We require parents to fill out an "Administration of Medication" (LIC 9221) form in conjunction with an Anaphylaxis Action Plan form.
 - Unused epipens will be returned to the parent/guardian at the conclusion of the need or upon the student's final day on campus, whichever comes first.
 - Used epipens will be disposed of in the "Sharps Container for Biohazard Needle Disposal" located in the school office; the container will then be taken to an authorized disposal facility as needed for replacement.
- **G-Tubes:** Creek staff is not trained or equipped to manage tube feeding, tube replacement, or emergencies that may arise related to the G-Tube. Parents would need to provide a trained aide or nurse to administer feeds and manage tube care and replacement as needed.
- **Blood/Glucose Testing:** We do not have a nurse on site and are unable to perform blood/glucose testing. If a student needs testing during the school day the parent or guardian would need to perform this procedure and manage all hygiene and safety related requirements.

Staff Training: Staff members are trained in CPR and Basic First Aid procedures and recertify to EMSA standards as required.

Safety Precautions and Materials: Staff is provided with medical grade disposable latex free gloves for all emergency procedure needs. Each classroom, the playground, and the office has a first aid kit that exceeds ANSI and OSHA standards.

COVID-19 Update for Personal Protective Equipment:

- Staff will wear a face covering in the form of a cloth or disposable mask, and will have the option for a face shield as well.
- Staff may remove their face masks during times of phonics learning or where the ability to see the mouth is necessary for communication.
- Staff will wear gloves when handling trash, food, changing diapers, or assisting a student with the toilet.

Cleaning & Sanitation COVID-19 Adjustments

- Our facility continues to receive a daily cleaning of both classrooms and bathrooms at the end of the day by our janitorial staff.
- During the day, teachers wipe down high touch classroom surfaces (tables, chair backs, door handles, etc) as well as bathroom implements (sink handles & toilet flush levers) with disinfecting wipes.
- Staff also have spray bottles of cleaning and disinfecting products along with paper towels available for larger cleaning wipe downs.
- After each play block, toys will be sanitized before being returned to the communal bins. Smaller selections of toys may be offered so that used items can be put into the sanitization bin after each play cycle while retaining another round of that toy for the next play block that day.
- Communal group touch items such as playdough or slime have been discontinued unless individually packaged and labeled for play.
- Each child will have a separate set of crayons, pencil, & scissors.
- Sensory tables, large pillows or stuffed animals, and other materials that are difficult to clean have been temporary closed or removed from the classroom.
- The play food has been removed from the kitchen areas.
- High-touch playground surfaces (railings, etc.) will be sanitized between recess blocks

Emergency Procedures

The many forms that you have filled out after registering for the school year have an important purpose. They're part of our back-up system in case of an emergency.

Copies of the disaster cards are stored in several secured locations on campus in case something should happen to the main building. In addition, the teachers keep their classes emergency information with them at all times—this is why they carry the sign in book with them everywhere they go: one copy of your emergency form is secured in that book.

In the event of a serious emergency happening, the children will be held in the safest area on campus until an authorized person comes to pick each child up.

In preparation for any sort of extended emergency situation our school has special bins of food, water, and disaster supplies stored on campus. You do not need to provide an emergency kit for your child. In the event of an emergency, the staff is assigned various emergency responsibilities.

If the school facility should become unsafe in the event of a disaster, our off-campus meeting site is Grijalva Park located at 368 N. Prospect Ave. just up the street from us past Chapman Ave.

Discipline

The children are taught to respect the rights of others, to obey, and to cooperate with the teachers. We believe that socialization and interplay with children of the same age is one of the most important aspects and benefits of the preschool experience.

We believe in using positive reinforcement and verbal praise to highlight when children are doing things RIGHT to encourage the continuation of pro-social behavior.

The staff understands that children will meet new frustrations at school that they must learn to handle. We are experienced in helping children learn through these new challenges. We believe in helping children verbalize their needs and frustrations to their friends and assisting in problem solving so that the children learn how to compromise and emphasize with others.

We believe in logical consequences for actions (both positive and negative). Our first choice for intervention is always redirection, talking it out, and helping the children find better choices.

However, hitting, kicking, and other acts of violence against another child always result in teacher intervention.

Our typical method of discipline after redirection and talking it out is a "time out." When a child is placed in time out, they are told that they are going to sit out because of the behavior, and then they sit for 2-5 minutes, depending on their age. If at the end of this time period, if the child has calmed down enough to discuss the bad choice they made and what they could do in the future to make better choices, they will be allowed out of the time out to go make amends with their friend and continue in their day.

While time outs are usually serious enough consequences, a child who continues to act violently against his or her classmates may need to be sent to the office for the time out and a talk with the director or office staff.

Should the dangerous behavior continue, a teacher will conference with the parents so that home and school can work together to solve the problem.

Biting will not be tolerated; if your child should bite another, they will immediately be sent to the office and you will be called to come and pick them up. Bullying of others will be a sure subject for an immediate parent and child conference with the director.

What is bullying? Hitting, name-calling, exclusion, or other behavior that is meant to hurt another person. Bullying is often carried out by someone who has more power against someone who has less power.

For bullying to exist, it must satisfy three requirements:

- 1) There is an imbalance of power.
- 2) The aggressor must be bullying intentionally.
- 3) It typically occurs over time and is not a onetime event.

Everyone has the right to feel safe at The Creek. Our discipline policies are in place to help encourage positive social behavior, and to help with conflict resolution and social growth. However, should a continuing situation of violence against others occur or other negative situations that affect student safety, the Creek reserves the right to cancel or modify individual student enrollment as needed.

Rights of the Licensing Agency

Title 22: Section 101200 (b) & (c) The Department or Licensing Agency shall have the authority to interview children, or staff, and to inspect and audit child or facility records without prior consent. The licensee shall make provisions for private interviews with any children or staff members. The Department has the authority to inspect, audit, and copy child or child care center records upon demand during normal business hours. Records may be removed for copying if necessary.