



# Gateway Preschool

Parents today are very conscious, cautious, and concerned when it comes to their children. They should be! God has given them a precious gift in their children.

As a preschooler goes through this impressionable period of life, he or she needs to know that God loves them. They need to know how special they are. They need to be encouraged and loved.

At Gateway's Weekday Preschool our staff is committed to sharing this love with your child. They will give your child the attention, the care and the encouragement that you would expect. We are committed to your child's safety and well-being as well as supporting you as a parent.

We look forward to being a part of your family.

Dr. Don Brock  
Pastor

## **Welcome**

Welcome to Gateway Baptist Weekday Preschool. We are proud to be serving the families of the Irmo, Ballentine, and Chapin area. Our program began in 1988 and serves children from 1-4 years old.

We are a ministry of Gateway Baptist Church, and it is our goal to provide a safe, loving Christian environment in which your child can grow in all areas of their life, becoming all that God has intended for them to be. We also minister to our families as apart of Gateway's mission to minister to the community.

Our programs and activities are designed to foster the development of the whole child (spiritually, emotionally, physically, socially, and cognitively). Our objective is to give our students opportunities:

- (1) to grow in their awareness of God's world and His love for them,
- (2) to experience success that leads to a strong self-esteem, and
- (3) to prepare them for future educational experiences.

We are excited about our new year and thankful for each child entrusted to us. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help your family.

## **Monthly Unit Themes /Activities**

Gateway Preschool is a busy place every morning as our children are exposed to a variety of experiences. The following are the typical themes and activities for the school year for all classes. Our 3 and 4 year old classes also incorporate activities for the alphabet letters and sounds.

September: God Made Me/I am Special

Study of body parts, the 5 senses, manners

October: God Gave Me a Wonderful World

Study of the Fall Season

Story of Creation

Fire Prevention

November: We are Thankful

Study of Thanksgiving, Pilgrims, Indians

Thanksgiving Feast

December: Jesus is Born

Story of Christmas Christmas Programs

January: God Made the Animals

Study of animals

Study of Winter Season

February: We Can Be Helpers

Study of Community Helpers

Valentines Day

Friends

March: Jesus Loves Me

Jesus cares for Me study

Breakfast with Dad

April: God Made Plants

Study of the Spring Season

Growing Plants

Easter Story /Easter Egg Hunts

May: Thank You God for my Family

Families

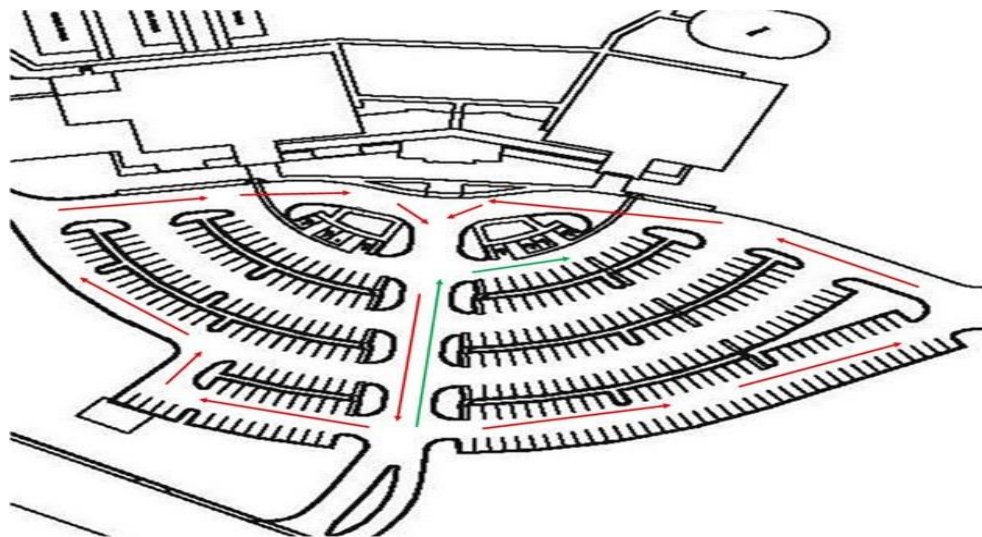
Mother's Day

Summer Season

## Parent Participation

There are several special events where we typically invite parents into the building. Every classroom celebrates holidays and birthdays. In December, our children perform a Christmas Program. In the Spring, we host a Breakfast for Dad and a Mother's Day Tea Party. Throughout the year, we will be in touch to let you know when you are invited to participate in our fun events.

### Carpool Map



Red arrows: Carpool

Green Arrows: One-year olds or walk-ins

Worship Center : Jennifer, Beth, Janet, Marie

Education Building: Michelle, Lori, Jessica, Cathy, Amanda

## **Tuition**

Tuition is due by the 10th of each month. Tuition statements will be emailed out by the 1st of each month. There will be a \$10.00 charge for tuition received after the 10th of the month unless otherwise arranged with the director.

To make tuition payments, go to [gatewaybc.com/give](http://gatewaybc.com/give), set up an account, login, and make a payment to Weekday Preschool. Payments

can be made monthly or scheduled automatically as recurring payments. Cash or check can be sent in your child's communication folder, but please make sure your child's teacher is aware.

Tuition and Picnic Pals fees are averaged for the year and will be due no matter how many days your child attends. This makes the payments the same each month, even though some months are longer than others.

Please note that Gateway does not send out yearly payment forms for tax purposes. Please check ProCare for a yearly tax print out. Our Tax I.D. number is 57-0730330.

## **Health Requirements**

Children should not be brought to school if any of the following symptoms have been present in the past 24 hours prior to the start of the next school day:

- ~fever
- ~shortness of breath
- ~Loss of taste or smell
- ~ new or worsening cough
- ~Diarrhea
- ~Nausea or vomiting
- ~fatigue
- ~body aches
- ~chills
- ~ headache
- ~congestion
- ~runny nose
- ~ sore throat

Please advise us if your child has come down with a contagious disease so that other parents may be notified. Also, should your child come into contact with head lice, please let us know. Children who become sick during the school day will be sent home.

If your child is well enough to come to school, he/she is well enough to participate in the regular program, including outdoor activities. Please keep your child home if you feel they need to remain inside. We simply do not have the staff to watch children who must remain inside.

## **Personal Belongings**

Children often have similar clothing, so it is necessary for you to label your child's clothing. Children should be dressed for play. Please do not send toys, guns, stuffed animals or ANYTHING OF VALUE. We cannot be responsible for valuable items sent to school.

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-teacher conferences are welcomed by appointment after school hours. Please call your child's teacher as you feel it is necessary.

## **Birthday Celebrations**

Teachers will arrange a time for each child to celebrate their birthday during the year. You may choose to bring in a special snack for the class. Teachers will talk to you about gifts for the gift boxes. We will only distribute birthday invitations for outside the preschool if all children are invited in the class.

## **Communication**

Most teachers will also use some form of group communication like remind or group texts to talk with parents specifically about their classrooms.

The preschool will communicate via monthly newsletters, calendars, and through the ProCare app. Please download the app, sign in or create an account, and make sure notifications are turned on.

## **School Hours and Holidays**

Preschool hours are 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. You may drop off your child no earlier than 8:45 and must pick your child up by 12:00 p.m. A late fee of \$5.00 is charged after that time for the first 5 minutes and \$1.00 per minute that you are late thereafter.

Gateway Preschool observes all Lexington District 5 holidays. If Lexington District 5 has a late starting time due to the weather, Gateway will be closed. Our preschool will follow Lexington 5 closing due to the weather.

## **Registration**

Registration will be held in late February for the following September. All children need to be of correct age on or before September 1 of each school year as required by the South Carolina public school system. Children enrolled in three-year-old and older classes must be toilet trained prior to entrance. We will help families in the process of this training; however, each child must be out of diapers before school begins.

The annual registration fee is \$150.00 for all classes and must accompany your registration form to reserve the child's space for the following year. Registration fees are nonrefundable unless the family moves out of town and informs the director by August 1st.

The SC Department of Health and Environmental Control requires that each child enrolled at Gate- way Preschool must have a current, unexpired SC Immunization certificate on file. The necessary form required by DHEC is called the 1148 form and can be obtained from the doctor's office or the health department. In the event of exemptions, prior approval must be granted, and the appropriate documentation submitted.



## **2023-2024 School Calendar**

Parent's Open House- 8/31 @ 6:30

Meet the Teacher Drop-in- 9/1 from 10-12

Classes begin – 9/5 & 9/6

Fall Break- 10/13-10/16

Thanksgiving Break- 11/22-11/24

Christmas Program- 12/6 (3's @10am, 4's 11am)

Christmas Break 12/18-1/2

Student Holiday - 1/15

Student Holidays- 2/16-2/19

Donuts with Dad- 3/12 & 3/13 from 8:30-9:15

Student Holiday- 3/18

Easter Holiday - 3/29-4/5

Mother's Day Tea 3's and 4's- 5/8 @10:30

Last day- 5/17

## **Contact Information**

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