



## Registration Form:

### Student Information

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: **M / F** Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
First MI Last (circle)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

What date would you like this child to start? \_\_\_\_\_ How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

How many days per week will this child be attending? (circle one) **Mon - Fri** **Mon/Wed/Fri** **Tues/Thurs**  
(Full Time) (3 days a week) (2 days a week)

On a typical day, around what time will this child be dropped off in the mornings? \_\_\_\_\_

On a typical day, around what time will this child be picked up in the afternoons? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any allergies or special medical needs for this child: \_\_\_\_\_

Will your child require any medication to be kept at the center (including epi pen) while in our care? YES NO

(if yes, please ask for a Medical Authorization Form from the front office before completing your registration)

### Parent/Guardian Information

#### Parent/Guardian #1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First MI Last

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Parent/Guardian #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First MI Last

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact & Authorized Pickup

### Emergency Contact #1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Contact #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Authorized Pickup #1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Authorized Pickup #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Authorized Pickup #3

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Authorized Pickup #4

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** Any Authorized Pickup **will be asked for a picture ID upon arrival** to verify their identity. Their full name must match what is listed on this form. If you would like to change those listed as an Authorized Pickup for your child, please contact the front office to do so.



## Parent Agreement:

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Agreement Summary:

1. GOB ELC accepts applications for enrollment without regard to race, religion, national origin or sex.
2. The center is open from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday year-round with the exception of the holidays and school closures listed on our school calendar.
3. Due to severe food allergies no products with nuts or peanut butter are permitted on our campus.
4. In the event that a child becomes ill during our care as outlined in our sick policy, a parent will be called to pick up their child as soon as possible. The child will be isolated away from other students at the first sign of illness. Parents should make a plan to pick up their child within one hour of being notified that they are ill.
5. Children must have current medical and immunization records prior to enrollment and regularly update them in compliance with state law. Parents should provide new medical and immunization record's to Garden Oaks ELC after each well-check. In accordance with state law, children without updated medical records may not attend the Center until their records have been brought up to date.
6. Children four years of age or older, must be screened for possible vision and hearing concerns within 120 days of enrollment, or at their 4-year-old well-visit. The results of their screening must be provided to Garden Oaks ELC within one week of the screening.
7. In the event of an emergency, the center has my permission to administer first aid or to obtain emergency medical treatment in the child's best interest.
8. In the event of inclement weather, the center will follow HISD closing schedules. I understand the center may need to be closed outside of scheduled closings for any inclement weather that pose a threat to the safety of students or staff.
9. I understand that Garden Oaks ELC is not responsible for any personal items brought from home that are damaged, lost or stolen.

10. Garden Oaks ELC will administer only dated, labeled, medications while a child is in our care. All medication policies are subject to state regulation and Medical Authorization Form must be filled out.
11. Tuition is due on time and in full regardless of attendance. A 30-day withdrawal notice is required for all students who are withdrawing. Parents are responsible for tuition for the last 30 days that their child attends Garden Oaks ELC. If tuition is not paid by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, a late fee of \$35 will be charged.
12. I agree to pay a Registration Fee of \$225 at the time of enrollment and an annual Supply & Curriculum Fee of \$150 each school calendar year thereafter. **These fees are non-refundable.**
13. I agree to pay a fee of \$1.00 per minute per child if my child is picked up after 6:00 PM.

I have read and understand the above Parent Agreement Summary and agree in full to the terms outlined above. I agree to cooperate with the teachers and administrators of Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center and adhere to the policies outlined.

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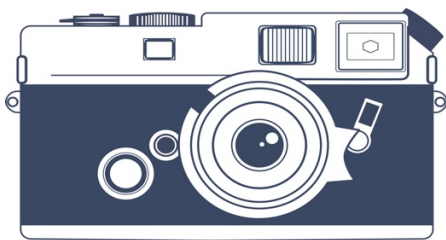
**Parent/Guardian Signature**

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**Date**

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**Parent/Guardian Printed Name**



## Garden Oaks ELC Photo Release:

Photographs of your child may be taken at Garden Oaks Early Learning Center during normal center hours for a variety of reasons. These photographs may be used in the classroom to decorate or label your child's classroom space. They may also be used to send daily reports to you throughout the day or for promoting Garden Oaks ELC services. Garden Oaks Early Learning Center also has a Facebook page that we would like to post pictures during special event parties, and holiday moments for our parents to enjoy. No names will ever be attached to pictures posted on social media. Please indicate which of the following photo options you are most comfortable with in regards to your child:

**(Select one, or all that apply)**

- ☐ I give my permission for Garden Oaks Baptist ELC to take pictures of my child for promotion within the classroom, and for automatic daily reports sent directly to me.
- ☐ I give my permission for Garden Oaks Baptist ELC to take pictures of my child for promotional purposes in print and/or on the ELC website.
- ☐ I give my permission for Garden Oaks Baptist ELC to post pictures of my child (with no name attached) to the Garden Oaks Baptist ELC Facebook page.
- ☐ **I do NOT** give my permission for Garden Oaks Baptist ELC to take pictures of my child.

With my signature below I am certifying the above selection(s). I understand that it is my responsibility to update this form in the event that I no longer wish to authorize the above uses. I agree that this form will remain in effect during the term of my child's enrollment. I understand that there will be no payment for me or my child's participation in this release.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





## Release of Liability:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, the legal parent or guardian of the above-named child (my child), fully consent to the participation of my child in all Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center (Garden Oaks ELC) activities and events as outlined by the school annual calendar.

I hereby further authorize any of the staff, employees, agents and representatives of Garden Oaks (ELC) to provide for, approve, and authorize any health care needed for my child at any hospital, emergency room, doctor's office or other institution as needed in emergency situations that may arise while in the care of Garden Oaks ELC. I agree to the emergency treatment for my child by any emergency medical personnel, doctor, dentist or other health authority as needed for the care and wellbeing of my child. Healthcare shall include, but not be limited to the administration of medication, anesthesia, x-ray, examination, performance of operations, diagnostic and other procedures as deemed necessary by a medical professional.

I agree to and furthermore authorize emergency transportation by either a designated Garden Oaks ELC personnel, or if necessary, by ambulance or other emergency vehicles.

If there is no medical emergency, Garden Oaks ELC staff will first use reasonable efforts to contact the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) before administering or authorizing treatment. Notwithstanding other provisions in this consent form, Garden Oaks ELC shall have the authority to authorize life-sustaining procedures or treatments for my child.

While Garden Oaks ELC is well child-proofed, supervised and operates under the standards required of a Childcare Center in the state of Texas, accidents do happen regularly. I, the legal parent or guardian of the above-named child, assume all responsibility and risk for injury or harm to my child associated with participation in the Garden Oaks ELC program. I agree to release and forever discharge Garden Oaks ELC and its staff, employees, and representatives from all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, and actions in the event of an injury while my child is in the care of Garden Oaks ELC. I release any responsibility of actions that lead to injury, loss or damage to my child or by my child howsoever caused, arising or to arise by reason of or during the child's participation in the Garden Oaks ELC program.

I understand that in the event of an emergency, Garden Oaks ELC does not provide insurance for a child within its care and all medical expenses are to be paid for by me, the parent or guardian of the above-named child. While Garden Oaks ELC does everything in its power to keep its facility clean and sanitized daily; I understand that illnesses and germs are exchanged from child to child within a daycare setting. I hereby release Garden Oaks ELC from any and all responsibility attached to the risk of my child contracting an illness or medical condition while participating in the program at Garden Oaks ELC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Printed Name



## ADMISSION INFORMATION

**Purpose:** Use this form to collect all required information about a child enrolling in day care.

**Directions:** The day care provider gives this form to the child's parent or guardian. The parent or guardian completes the form in its entirety and returns it to the day care provider before the child's first day of enrollment. The day care provider keeps the form on file at the child care facility.

GENERAL INFORMATION			
Operation's Name: Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center		Director's Name: Christine Purvis	
Child's Full Name:	Child's Date of Birth:	Child Lives With: <input type="checkbox"/> Both parents <input type="checkbox"/> Mom <input type="checkbox"/> Dad <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian	
Child's Home Address:			
Date of Admission:		Date of Withdrawal:	
Name of Parent or Guardian Completing Form:		Address of Parent or Guardian (if different from the child's):	
List telephone numbers below where parents/guardian may be reached while child is in care.			
Parent 1 Telephone No.	Parent 2 Telephone No.	Guardian's Telephone No.	Custody Documents on File: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Give the name, address, and phone number of the responsible individual <b>to call</b> in case of an emergency if parents/guardian cannot be reached:			Relationship:
I authorize the child care operation <b>to release</b> my child to leave the child care operation <b>ONLY</b> with the following persons. Please list name and telephone number for each. Children will only be released to a parent or guardian or to a person designated by the parent/guardian after verification of ID.			
Name and Phone Number:	Name and Phone Number:	Name and Phone Number:	

CONSENT INFORMATION	
<b>CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:</b>	
<b>1. TRANSPORTATION</b>	
I give consent for my child to be transported and supervised by the operation's employees: <input type="checkbox"/> for emergency care <input type="checkbox"/> on field trips <input type="checkbox"/> to and from home <input type="checkbox"/> to and from school	
<b>2. FIELD TRIPS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I give consent for my child to participate in field trips. <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>do not</b> give consent for my child to participate in field trips.	
<b>Comments:</b>	
<b>3. WATER ACTIVITIES</b>	
I give consent for my child to participate in the following water activities: <input type="checkbox"/> water table play <input type="checkbox"/> sprinkler play <input type="checkbox"/> splashing/wading pools <input type="checkbox"/> swimming pools <input type="checkbox"/> aquatic playgrounds	

### CHILD'S ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SECTION

List any special needs that your child may have, such as environmental allergies, food intolerances, existing illness, previous serious illness, injuries and hospitalizations during the past 12 months, any medication prescribed for long-term continuous use, and any other information which caregivers should be aware of:

Does your child have diagnosed food allergies? Yes ☐ No ☐ Plan submitted on:

Child day care operations are public accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title III. If you believe that such an operation may be practicing discrimination in violation of Title III, you may call the ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 (voice) or (800) 514-0383 (TTY).

Signature - Parent or Legal Guardian:

Date Signed:

### SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

My child attends the following school:

Name of School:

School Phone Number:

My child has permission to (check all that apply):

☐ walk to or from school or home ☐ ride a bus ☐ be released to the care of his/her sibling under 18 years old

Authorized pick up/drop off locations other than the child's address:

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENT

If your child does not attend pre-kindergarten or school away from the child care operation, one of the following must be presented when your child is admitted to the child care operation or within one week of admission.

Please check only one option:

1. ☐ HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL'S STATEMENT: I have examined the above named child within the past year and find that he or she is able to take part in the day care program.

Health Care Professional's Signature:

Date Signed:

2. ☐ A signed and dated copy of a health care professional's statement is attached.

3. ☐ Medical diagnosis and treatment conflict with the tenets and practices of a recognized religious organization, which I adhere to or am a member of. I have attached a signed and dated affidavit stating this.

4. ☐ My child has been examined within the past year by a health care professional and is able to participate in the day care program. Within 12 months of admission, I will obtain a health care professional's signed statement and submit it to the child care operation.

Name and Address of Health Care Professional:

Signature - Parent or Legal Guardian:

Date Signed:



### REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCLUSION

- ☐ I have attached a signed and dated affidavit stating that I decline immunizations for reason of conscience, including religious belief, on the form described by Section 161.0041 Health and Safety Code submitted no later than the 90<sup>th</sup> day after the affidavit is notarized.
- ☐ I have attached a signed and dated affidavit stating that the vision or hearing screening conflicts with the tenets or practices of a church or religious denomination that I am an adherent or member of.

### VISION EXAM RESULTS

R 20/	L 20/	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Fail
Signature:		Date Signed:	

### HEARING EXAM RESULTS

Ear	1000 Hz	2000 Hz	4000 Hz	Pass or Fail
Right				<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail
Left				<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail
Signature:			Date Signed:	

### VACCINE INFORMATION

The following vaccines require multiple doses over time. Please provide the date your child received *each dose*.

Vaccine	Vaccine Schedule	Dates Child Received Vaccine
Hepatitis B	Birth (first dose) 1–2 months (second dose) 6–18 months (third dose)	
Rotavirus	2 months (first dose) 4 months (second dose) 6 months (third dose)	
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	2 months (first dose) 4 months (second dose) 6 months (third dose) 15–18 months (fourth dose) 4–6 years (fifth dose)	
Haemophilus Influenza Type B	2 months (first dose) 4 months (second dose) 6 months (third dose) 12–15 months (fourth dose)	

### VACCINE INFORMATION

The following vaccines require multiple doses over time. Please provide the date your child received *each dose*.

Vaccine	Vaccine Schedule	Dates Child Received Vaccine
Pneumococcal	2 months (first dose) 4 months (second dose) 6 months (third dose) 12–15 months (fourth dose)	
Inactivated Poliovirus	2 months (first dose) 4 months (second dose) 6–18 months (third dose) 4–6 years (fourth dose)	
Influenza	Yearly, starting at 6 months. Two doses given at least four weeks apart are recommended for children who are getting the vaccine for the first time and for some other children in this age group.	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella	12–15 months (first dose) 4–6 years (second dose)	
Varicella	12–15 months (first dose) 4–6 years (second dose)	
Hepatitis A	12–23 months (first dose) The second dose should be given 6 to 18 months after the first dose.	

### PHYSICIAN OR PUBLIC HEALTH PERSONNEL VERIFICATION

Signature or stamp of a physician or public health personnel verifying immunization information above:

Signature :

Date Signed:

### VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)

Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is not required if your child has had chickenpox disease. If your child has had chickenpox, please complete the statement: My child had varicella disease (chickenpox) on or about (date) and does not need varicella vaccine.

Parent's Signature:

Date Signed:

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING IMMUNIZATIONS

For additional information regarding immunizations, visit the Texas Department of State Health Services' website at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/public.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/public.shtm).

**TB TEST (IF REQUIRED)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	Date:
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**GANG FREE ZONE**

Under the Texas Penal Code, any area within 1,000 feet of a child care center is a gang-free zone, where criminal offenses related to organized criminal activity are subject to harsher penalties.

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

DFPS values your privacy. For more information, read our Privacy and Security Policy online at <http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/policies/privacy.asp>.

**SIGNATURES**

Child's Parent or Legal Guardian:  <b>X</b>	Date Signed:
Center Designee:  <b>X</b>	Date Signed:

Garden Oaks Baptist



Early Learning Center

## Parent Handbook

### **Our Mission:**

At Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center, we are dedicated to providing your child with a developmentally appropriate environment. We strive for this environment to create a thirst for learning in the child, introduce them to the God that created them, shape their moral integrity, encourage a sense of joy, and build upon their natural curiosity and wonder for the world around them.

### **Our Philosophy:**

We believe each child is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 129:14). Therefore, each child begins developing their own unique personality at a very young age. Early experiences at home and in the child care center encourage children to increase their self-awareness as they begin to explore, respond, create, and make choices. We strive to provide a loving, nurturing, and creative environment for children; an environment that allows children to discover their own talents, sense of identity and personality. We provide a physical environment that is safe, clean, healthy, and child friendly.

At Garden Oaks ELC, we strive to create an environment that is responsive to their social, emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual needs; an environment that allows each child the freedom of self-expression. Helping a child to discover and explore the world around them will help them grow mentally. Basics such as colors, shapes, numbers, and alphabet will be introduced in a way that makes learning fun. We use the ABEKA Curriculum which provides developmentally appropriate activities that focus on the process of learning while also allowing the children to enjoy their successful experiences. We encourage not just learning, but the love of learning.

### **Our Policies:**

The following policies are in place to help us care for your child to the best of our ability. In no way are these policies a limiting factor to the excellence in care we will strive for daily with our students. These policies are subject to change at any time under the discretion of Garden Oaks Early Learning Center leadership and governing authorities. When able, a one week notice of policy changes will be given to parents. Questions or concerns regarding the following policies should be taken directly to the ELC Director.

**Operation Policy and Late Pickup:**

Days and hours of operation (year-round):

Days: Monday through Friday

Hours: 7:00 am — 6:00 pm

**No early care will be available prior to 7am. A late fee of \$1 per minute will be charged for pick up after 6:00pm with no exceptions given.**

**Planned Closure & Holidays:**

New Year's Eve

New Year's Day

President's Day (Teacher Continuing Education Day)

Good Friday

The Friday before Labor Day (Teacher Continuing Education Day)

Memorial Day

4<sup>th</sup> of July

The Friday before Labor Day (Teacher Work Day)

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after Thanksgiving

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**Registration and Supply Fees:**

A one-time registration fee of \$225 for the first child and \$100 for each additional child will be charged upon registration. For new students a \$75 curriculum fee will also be charged for classes using the ABEKA Curriculum (Toddlers through Pre-K).

For existing students, a supply & curriculum fee of \$150 for the first child and \$100 for each additional child will be charged in the month of August for the new school year.

**Tuition:****Infants - 6 weeks to 18 months**

2 days/week (T/Th) - \$519

3 days/week (MWF) - \$658

5 days/week (M-F) - \$949

### **Toddlers - 18 months through 2 years old**

2 days/week (T/Th) - \$380

3 days/week (MWF) - \$531

5 days/week (M-F) - \$833

### **3 year through 5 years old**

2 days/week (T/Th) - \$ 329

3 days/week (MWF)- \$480

5 days/week (M-F) - \$811

A sibling discount of 10% will be given on more than one child's tuition. Tuition is subject to annual review and increase as needed.

### **Late Tuition Fee:**

- Tuition is due on the first of every month. A grace period will be given until the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- A \$35.00 late fee will be assessed after the 10th of each month.
- Tuition is due in full every month regardless of illness, holidays, vacations and or inclement weather.
- Students will not be permitted to attend if account goes 45 days past due.

### **Refund Policy:**

Registration and Tuition fees are **non-refundable** after enrollment is secured.

### **Meals**

Garden Oaks ELC serves two (2) meals per day (breakfast and lunch) and one (1) healthy snack (in the afternoon.) Meals and snacks are prepared in compliance with governing federal and state guidelines to assure nutritional value. A monthly menu is posted for inspection and comment as well as sent out to all parents. Breakfast will be served around 8:30am each morning, but not after 9:15am. We strongly encourage that no food be brought in from home unless your child is allergic to what is being served that day. Any food sent from home, will not be heated in a microwave or stored in a refrigerator at school. We do not allow anything that contains peanuts in our facility.

**Release of Children:**

For safety reasons, children will only be released to that child's parent unless prior written or verbal permission is given. Parents will need to notify the center of additional persons authorized to pick up their child either by a Pickup Authorization Form found in your registration packet, or with written or verbal confirmation prior to the child's pickup. All authorized pickup persons will be asked for a photo ID for verification of identity before the child will be released to them.

**Parent Visits to ELC Campus:**

Garden Oaks ELC welcomes parents to our campus and to step into our classroom at any time. We have an open-door policy. Additionally, mothers with infants are welcome to join their child in the infant classroom to be able to breastfeed your child. When arriving on campus, parents should check in at the front office before you go into a classroom.

**Inclement Weather Notifications:**

Due to inclement weather, it may be necessary for Garden Oaks ELC to open late, close early, or close for the entire day. We will make every effort to open the Center; however, safety of our staff, children, and families is of utmost concern. In the event of inclement weather, and in most cases, our Center will follow HISD closings schedules. We will work to notify you regarding closings as soon as we know one is necessary. Please look for updates on the HISD website, our Garden Oaks ELC Facebook Page and an email that will be sent out from our Center staff when closures happen.

**Fire Drills and Emergency Preparedness Plan**

Fire drills are performed once a month. Children are taught how to exit the building quickly and safely and to stay with their class once outside of the building. Infants are evacuated in cribs.

Disaster drills will be conducted every 3 months. Disaster drills include but not limited to shelter in place emergencies, hurricane, flood or tornado. If relocation is necessary or enforced by the proper authorities, everyone will be transported accordingly to the Emergency Designated Location below:

**Business Name:** Gabby's BBQ

**Address:** 3101 N Shepherd Dr.  
Houston Texas 77018

**Contact Info:** (713) 864-5049

### **Water Activities:**

Children ages 12 months and older may participate in sprinkler play during the summer months. This will take place on our playground and will be supervised by the appropriate staff. If you wish your child to not participate in water activities, please contact the front office.

### **Confidentiality:**

Information relating to your child is confidential and will not be released unless written authorization is provided by a parent or legal guardian. All records are kept in a locked file. An exception will be made in the event of suspected child abuse. Any such suspicion will be reported to the Director for immediate investigation and action with the appropriate authorities. Records may also be accessed by an authorized parent, staff member, Texas Department of Family and Child Services, and law enforcement.

### **Grievance and Communication**

Occasionally there may be questions, problems or grievances that arise. It is our policy to follow the Matthew 18:15-17 principle. The teachers and administration of Garden Oaks ELC want to help you resolve any issue that may arise. With this in mind, we ask you to please follow the guidelines below:

- Bring any and all questions and criticisms to the person most directly involved.
- If there are questions or concerns about a specific classroom action or procedure, contact the appropriate teacher.
- If a satisfactory conclusion is not reached, request a meeting with the Director.

The guidelines and policies of the ELC have been established to insure a peaceful, God honoring Christian school environment for students, faculty and families. The faculty and administration of Garden Oaks ELC are intent in helping you resolve any concern you may have. However, we must have your assistance in accomplishing this goal. We want to have open and clear communication at all times. If we do not address the situation head on and talk a situation out directly with those involved, an issue can rarely be resolved. We appreciate your help in making our center better by openly communicating with us directly.

### **Toilet Training**

It is our goal to have children from our older two-year old's class on up be toilet trained. We are happy to work with them to achieve this important milestone regardless of their age. We focus on positive reinforcement (e.g., praise and stickers.) We feel there is a window of opportunity that comes at approximately 2 ½ years of age which is where our center will start focusing on this training. We try to maximize this opportunity. We will do our best to support your at-home initiatives and desire to communicate well regarding toilet training and work together toward this goal.

In most cases, students are required to be fully toilet trained by the time they enter the 3's class. Contact our front office if your child will require specialized attention for this training.



### **Fire arms and other weapons**

(DFPS Chapter 746-3707 Subchapter S Safety Practices Division) Only law enforcement officials who are trained and certified to carry a firearm on duty, may have fire arms and/or ammunition on the premises of the ELC. Additionally, all toys that explode or that shoot (such as BB guns, darts, fireworks, etc.) are prohibited within our center.

**Gang Free Zone:** Under the Texas Penal Code any area within 1000 feet of a child-care center is a gang-free zone, where criminal offenses related to organized criminal activity are subject to a harsher penalty.

### **Employee First Aid/CPR and Health Checks**

All ELC staff members are certified in first aid and infant/child CPR. All staff members go through additional continuing education classes and safety procedures annually.

Additionally, employees strictly comply with protective procedures that include but are not limited to:

- An employee will wear gloves when handling or cleaning body fluids such as wiping noses, mouths, or bottoms, and tending to sores.
- An employee with open wounds and/or any injury that inhibits handwashing such as casts, bandages, or braces, will not prepare food or have close contact with children as prohibited by their injury.
- An employee will wear a mask when they have any type of respiratory symptom to reduce the spread of droplets to surrounding areas.
- An employee will wear a mask when taking care of children with respiratory symptoms.
- An employee will remove gloves and wash hands immediately after each task to prevent cross contamination to other children.
- An employee will be asked to leave the center when they have any signs or symptoms of illness and will not return for 24 hours after they are symptom free.

### **Injury and Emergency Medical Procedures**

In the event of non-life-threatening medical emergencies, we will contact the parents first. If we cannot locate parents or designated adult, we will call the child's physician. If he/she cannot be reached, we will call for emergency medical assistance.

In the event of a life-threatening medical emergency every effort will be made to stabilize the child and emergency services are contacted right away. After which, Garden Oaks ELC Director will notify the parents.

### **Policy on Biting**

Biting is a natural development stage that many children go through. It is usually a temporary condition that is most common between thirteen and twenty- four months of age. The safety of your child is of primary concern to our staff.

The following steps will be taken if a biting incident occurs at our center:

- The biting will be interrupted with a firm “No, we don’t bite our friends!” We will remain calm and not overreact.
- The bitten child will be comforted and the biter will be removed from the situation and given something to do that is satisfying.
- The wound of the bitten child will be assessed and cleansed with soap and water and ice will be applied.
- Appropriate forms will be filled out.
- Both parents will be notified of the incident.

Confidentiality of all children involved will be maintained at all times.

The following steps will be taken if the biting occurs on a **regular basis**:

- The biter’s parents will be notified that their child bit and injured the skin of another child.
- If the biting behavior continues, parents will be asked to remove the child from the center until the biting behavior has passed.

Every child is unique and special. Subsequently, every biting situation will be handled on an individual basis. The ELC Administration and staff will stay in close contact with parents and every effort will be made to guide the child through this developmental stage.

#### **Medical Records:**

Each child in the program is required to have current medical and immunization records on file in the office and regularly updated in compliance with state law. Children 4 years or older must be screened for possible hearing or vision problems within 120 days of enrollment. The required report must be signed by a licensed professional.

***Your child cannot attend without proper medical records on file!***

#### **Illness:**

Because of our concern for the health of your child and all other children in the center, Children will not be permitted to attend the ELC with the following signs or symptoms of illness:

- A fever of 100.4 within the previous 24 hours
- Vomiting/diarrhea with the previous 24 hours
- Any symptoms of a contagious diseases such as scarlet fever, measles, mumps, chicken pox or whooping cough.
- Unexplained rash or skin infection
- Pink eye or other eye infections
- Head lice (child should be free of all nits before returning)

Children who become ill during the day will need to be sent home. In all cases, the Center reserves the right to send home a child with suspicious or prolonged symptoms. Re-admittance is at the discretion of the ELC Director but in most cases is permitted once a child is symptom free for 24 hours or has a doctor’s note. When a child is absent due to illness, please notify the ELC as early as possible so that we can watch for symptoms with other students in your child’s class.

### **Medication Policies**

Garden Oaks ELC will only administer medications that are dated and labeled and that have a Medical Authorization Form on file with the front office. All medication policies are subject to state regulations.

Prescription medication must be in the original container and labeled with the child's complete name, the medication name, recommended dosage, time intervals for administration, method of administration, expiration date and physician's name and license number.

Topical ointments may be applied as needed for protection against the sun or diaper rash under written parental instructions. Topical ointments should be given to your child's teacher and never left in cubbies. All topical ointments will be kept beyond the reach of children at all times.

Parents must sign a Garden Oaks ELC medication authorization form for each individual medication.

### **Consumer Product Safety Commission:**

No items that are listed on the Consumer Product Safety Commission recall list will be allowed in Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center. You can check the CPSC's recall list by visiting [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services web site—[www.dfps.state.tx.us](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us)

### **Infant Sleep Policy:**

Infants not yet able to turn over on their own must be placed in a face-up sleeping position in the infant's own crib, unless you have a completed a Sleep Exception Form that includes a signed statement from a health-care professional stating that a different sleeping position for the child is medically necessary. Documentation from a health care professional is required for an infant to sleep in a device other than a CPSC approved crib. Please contact our front office to make accommodations like this for your child.

### **Outdoor Policy**

Children will be outdoors every day that "weather conditions permit". Weather permitting means almost every day unless there is active precipitation, extremely hot or cold conditions or public announcements that advise people to remain indoors due to weather conditions such as high levels of pollutions, extreme cold or heat that might cause health problems. Weather that poses a significant health risk shall include wind chill at or below 15°F and heat index at or above 90°F, as identified by the National Weather Service.

The following is our policy:

Our teachers provide the children with the opportunity to go outdoors daily. In the winter, we take the children outside if the temperature, including wind chill factor, is above 32°F. When it is between 32-40°F we limit time outdoors to 10-15 minutes maximum. When the temperature is above 40°F, we remain outside for the normal allotted time. If the temperature is below 32°F (including wind chill) we do not go outside. In the winter, we carefully bundle up the children with their coats, hats and mittens or gloves.

In the summer, we take the children outside if the temperature, including heat index, is below 100°F. When the temperature/ heat index is 96-100°F or a Code Red Air Quality, outside time will be limited to fifteen minutes. Also, cold water is provided during outside time. Anytime children are not able to go outside to play, they will be taken to our indoor gym for recreation time.

**Insect Repellent and Sunscreen Policy**

If you would like for your child to wear sunscreen or insect repellent while on the playground or during outdoor recreation, please make sure to send in a bottle of each to keep at school in the classroom. Our teachers are asked to put sunscreen on the children before they go outside for more than a 15-minute time period and insect repellent at the parent's request. All bottles must be FDA approved and labeled with your child's name. We are unable to share products between students. Please provide each child with an individual labeled bottle.

**Withdrawals**

Parents may withdraw a child from the ELC program at any time. A 30 day notice is required. Parents wishing to withdraw their child who fail to provide a 30 day notice will be liable for the last month's tuition.

**Student Behavior Agreement:**

All students at Garden Oaks ELC are expected to abide by our below Student Behavior Agreement. This is important to maintain a good learning atmosphere for all of our students as well as the wellbeing and safety of all of our students and staff members. Failure to adhere to this policy can affect the eligibility of your child for our program. If adherence to this policy is not kept, Garden Oaks ELC reserves the right to dismiss your child from enrollment in our center.

As an enrolled student of Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center, I agree that:

1. I will not damage the school, church, or other student's property.
2. If I do damage the above-mentioned property, I will replace or repair it.
3. I will be truthful.
4. I will use proper language.
5. I will be obedient to the authorities of the school (teachers and staff).
6. I will be courteous and cooperative toward teachers, staff and other students.
7. I will do my work to the best of my ability.
8. I will keep my hands to myself and not bring harm to other students or staff members.

**Conferences:**

Parent-Teacher conferences are an important part of our program. These conferences serve as a good communication medium between the home and the classroom. We encourage parents to come in and wish you to know that our teachers and Director are available to discuss pertinent matters. Should you desire a Parent-Teacher conference, we ask you not go to the classroom to make arrangements as this may interrupt the class time. Instead, we ask that you call the office first to schedule a time.

## **Discipline Program**

One of our goals is to help your child develop a positive self-image. We recognize that children need clearly defined limits set in a non-threatening yet firm manner. Children are encouraged to be self-directed and exhibit self-control. In order to achieve these goals, we apply principles that build self-esteem and avoid any shaming practices. As such, we accomplish order and thus discipline through close supervision, gentle guidance, and redirection. When all else fails, we will utilize a brief timeout (one minute per age of the child). This practice is rarely employed and never overused. We strictly hold our staff to these discipline policies:

### **Employee Guidance & Discipline Policy:**

All Center employees, including persons not counted in the child/caregiver ratio, must:

- Demonstrate competency, good judgment, and self-control in the presence of children and when performing assigned responsibilities.
- Relate to children with courtesy, respect, acceptance, and patience.
- Recognize and respect the uniqueness and potential of all children, their families, and their cultures.
- Ensure that no child is abused, neglected, or exploited while in the care of the center.
- Report suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation to DFPS as specified in the Texas Family Code, §261.10

In addition: There will be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following behaviors are PROHIBITED by parents and caregivers while on Garden Oaks Baptist Early Learning Center property:

- Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment.
- Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training.
- Pinching, shaking, or biting a child.
- Hitting a child with a hand or instrument.
- Putting anything in or on a child's mouth.
- Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child.
- Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language.
- Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet.
- Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age, including requiring a child to remain in a restrictive device.

**Reporting Abuse:** Texas state law requires suspected abuse and neglect to be reported to the Texas Department of Family Services or law enforcement. To make a confidential report dial the child abuse hotline: **800-252-4500**. Employees are prohibited from retaliating against anyone who makes a report in good faith. Employees are also required to report any suspected abuse and neglect.

### **Parent Participation**

Garden Oaks ELC has an open-door policy. We are committed to working with families. We strongly encourage them to participate in every aspect of their child's program. Parents are welcome to visit the Center anytime. Our main focus is your child. You are encouraged to discuss any developmental milestones you have encountered and share any other information that may be appropriate. Parents are encouraged to share personal interests including hobbies, talents, cultural backgrounds, favorite recipes, etc. Parent involvement is valued and therefore encouraged.

### **Parent Handbook Policy Acknowledgment:**

I, the parent or guardian of **(students name)** \_\_\_\_\_ agree to:

1. Support the Center in its faith values and education plan.
2. Support the Student Behavior Agreement.
3. Read the Parent Handbook in its entirety, including the Discipline Policy, and uphold all rules and regulations outlined in this handbook.
4. Recognize the Center's right to dismiss any student who does not respect its standards or cooperate in the educational process.
5. Abide by all registration fees, supply fees, tuition amounts and financial agreements.
6. Respect the administrator's responsibility for placing a child in the proper developmental classroom.
7. Follow proper channels as outlined in the grievance procedure if I should disagree with the actions of any Center employee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent's/Guardian's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent's/Guardian's Printed Name**