

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Preschool & Kindergarten (K2-K5)



FIRST BAPTIST
SCHOOL

DR. JUSTIN MITCHELL
Head of School

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Lower & Middle School Principal



PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

Academic Excellence with a Christian Perspective

In an effort to offer one of the best and safest learning environments in Charleston, our Christian preschool (2-years-old through 4-years-old) is licensed and approved by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS). Every staff member is SLED background checked CPR certified, AED certified, and completes 15 or more hours of continuing education every calendar year. Furthermore, our classroom size remains low, so the student to teacher ratio complies with DSS mandates. In a further effort to ensure your student's safety and wellbeing, our faculty tracks and charts student movement throughout the day.

Within the classroom, our vertically aligned curriculum ensures that each student receives a top-tier education. We align with the South Carolina Early Learning Standards and supplement with different curriculums to ensure that each child is learning to their potential. As students enter the preschool program, the faculty introduces letters, numbers, and colors to students, as well as the basic principles of art, music, dance, and Spanish. Each year of instruction seamlessly builds upon the previous years, and students master essential fundamentals before new skills and knowledge are introduced.

The First Baptist Kindergarten program is concerned with bringing the whole child to God through Christ. It also seeks to give the whole child training for a productive life in our world. We believe that each child has a unique, divinely created timetable for development; we should neither force nor prevent a child's development of learning but should nurture and encourage the development process at its own rate. We want to be considered an extension of your family, helping your child in any way we can. Above all, we integrate our Christian faith into all aspects of our curriculum.

Updated November 2022



TWO – YEAR – OLD PROGRAM (K2)

Our goal is to share our love and knowledge of God with your child in a fun and exciting Christian learning environment. We want their early school experience to be a positive and memorable one. We promise to love and nurture your child and keep them safe while we expand their knowledge.

The K2 classroom utilizes a variety of teaching strategies. Students work in small groups, one on one, and as a whole group. The focus is on fine motor skills, social development and listening skills. The students paint, build, and much more.

K2 Daily Schedule

8:15-8:30 Arrival- Unpack, Potty, Morning Announcements and Prayer

8:35-9:20 Morning Work- One on One, Free Play in Centers

9:20-9:40 Morning Snack/Potty/Diapers

9:40-10:30 Outside Play and Gross Motor Activities

10:45-11:00 Circle Time and Lunch Prayer

11:00-11:45 Lunch

11:45 Potty/Diapers/Mats Out/Lights Outs

12:00-1:50 Nap/Rest Time

1:50 Wake-up, Potty/Diapers/Afternoon Snack

2:10 Pack-up, Tell Friends Goodbye

2:20 Dismissal- Carpool or Aftercare

K2 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM

- WEE Learn from Lifeway
- Age-appropriate learning activities
- designed to lay a foundation for understanding God, Jesus, Bible, Church, self, family, others and the natural world.
- Supplement with Teacher Created Material

OBJECTIVES

- Walk, run and start learning to jump with both feet
- Pull or carry toys while walking
- Climb on playground equipment
- Walk up stairs holding on to the railing
- Stand on tiptoes and balance on one foot
- Pull pants up and down
- Washing hands independently
- Practicing with snaps and zippers
- Building block towers
- Holding utensils and crayons with fingers (pincer grasp)
- Pretend play
- Do three-to-four-piece puzzles
- Group toys by size, type, and color
- Recite favorite books and nursery rhymes
- Follow simple two-step directions
- Understand the words for familiar people, everyday objects and body parts

*K2 begins Library once a week after Christmas.



THREE – YEAR – OLD PROGRAM (K3)

In the 3's program, we continue to foster and nurture the love of God. Students are working on their emotional and social development, language development, cognitive development, and mathematical thinking.

While aligning with the S.C.E.L.S, the K3 program allows the child to learn through play, with the hopes to achieve crucial developmental and emerging literacy skills. The program is focused on engaging with the children by allowing them to gain confidence in their fine motor skills and completing self-tasks. Spanish, calendar and weather will all be introduced in addition to becoming accustomed to letters, sounds, shapes and numbers. The K3 program continues to provide a safe and nurturing environment which is of utmost importance to the kindergarten team. Each child is cherished and recognized as a product of Christ.

K3 Daily Schedule

8:15-8:30 Unpack, Table Time, Morning Announcements & Prayer

8:30-9:30 Circle Time and Whole Group Activities

9:30-10:00 Snack Time and Potty Time

10:00-10:35 Center Time and One on One Teacher/Student Time

10:35-11:15 Playground

11:15-12:00 Lunch and Potty Time

12:00-1:45 Nap/Rest Time

1:45-2:20 Afternoon Snack and Potty Time

2:20 Dismissal

*K3 has Special Areas every day. We adjust our schedule depending on when that is daily. Special areas include PE (2x a week), Spanish (2x a week), Music, Art, and Library.

K3 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM

- Teacher created materials
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness
- Handwriting Without Tears
- TLC Lessons

OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrates ability to separate from parents
- Learns early social skills such as sharing and taking turns
- Listens to stories
- Understands and follows multi-step directions
- Independent self-help skills
- Follows classroom routines
- Identify numerals 0-5
- Begin identifying letters of the alphabet and begin recognizing letter sounds
- Rote counts to 10 and begins to count objects
- Recognizes and names 3 or more basic shapes
- Sorts objects by color, shape, and size
- Scissor practice
- Recognizes and names colors
- Recognizes name in print
- Begins to write name
- Monthly science units- weather, seasons, caterpillars, etc.



FOUR – YEAR – OLD PROGRAM (K4)

The First Baptist four-year-old program continues to focus on social-emotional growth as well as fine motor skills, reading readiness skills, critical thinking, and mathematical skills. Hands on activities are implemented as often as possible to allow students to engage in kinesthetic learning while reinforcing math and pre reading skills.

The K4 program offers opportunities for art, music/movement, science, STEM, math, block play, sensory and dramatic play on a daily basis. The materials and activities are interesting to the children and challenge them. The entire Kindergarten team works together to offer opportunities for family involvement: Fall Harvest Carnival, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas Program and Spring Play.

K4 Daily Schedule

Arrival Activities

Morning Circle Time

Story Time

Large Group Activity

Wash up/Snack

Special Area

Free Centers/Small Group

Recess

Lunch

Rest

Movement Activities

Dismissal

K4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM

- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness
- Curriculum
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Pocket of Preschool
- TLC Lessons
- KinderLit
- Teacher created materials
- Spark Bible

OBJECTIVES

- Use appropriate 3 finger grasp when
- Using pencils and crayons
- Use of toilet independently
- Care for own belongings
- Self-control
- Sharing
- Independent work
- Following directions
- Fine Motor skills
- Be able to state first and last name
- Write first name- uppercase and lowercase
- Know all letters in name
- Identify some of the letters of the alphabet
- Identify geometric shapes
- Identify colors
- Identify numerals 1-10
- Sort objects by color and shape
- One-to-one correspondence
- Make simple patterns



FIVE – YEAR – OLD PROGRAM (K5)

“Kindergarten looks different. It sounds different. Kindergarten has a whole different style. It is for fives. It is geared to fives. It is custom-made to fit children of this particular age.”

Dr. James L. Hymes, Jr.

We at First Baptist School adhere to Dr. Hymes’ philosophy; we understand that 5-year-olds are fidgety and have difficulty listening, being quiet or sitting for a sustained period of time. Kindergartners like to be actively engaged in their learning, so our classrooms are not quiet ones! Our children are busy with manipulatives, puzzles, games, art and blocks because that is how they learn best.

Along with these hands-on tools, we utilize our one-to-one iPads to introduce new concepts, review and practice skills. The integration of technology into our curriculum provides students with opportunities to be creative while expanding and sharing their learning. However, First Baptist Kindergarten is more than ABC’s and 123’s. In conjunction with our strong academics, we provide a Christian education to help each child build a personal relationship with Christ. Along with our 3’s and 4’s, we proudly present the Christmas Story each December to our friends and families, and we celebrate the wonder of God’s creation each April with our presentation of Eric Carle’s, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

Here at First Baptist, kindergarten is an exciting experience and serves as the foundation for a child’s development.

K5 Daily Schedule

Morning Announcements, Prayer, and Pledges

Calendar Math

Recess

Snack

Whole Group and Small Group Activities/Phonemic Awareness and Phonics

K5 Daily Schedule Continued

Special Area

Learning Centers

Free Play Centers

Handwriting Without Tears

Bible/Devotion

Lunch

Rest

Story Time

Recess

Dismissal

K5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM

- Handwriting Without Tears
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness
- Progress in Math by Sadlier Oxford
- Engaging Readers Phonics
- Curriculum by Deanna Jump
- It's Calendar Time! Daily
- Calendar Math by Growing
- Kinders

OBJECTIVES

- Write first and last name
- Identify all 26 capital letters and lowercase letters
- Master all letter sounds
- Identify first, middle, and ending sounds
- Clap and Counts syllables
- Recognize and produce rhymes
- Read 30 site words
- Read CVC words
- Write a sentence starting with a capital, use spaces and end with punctuation
- Identify short and long vowel sounds
- Identify 2D and 3D shapes
- Count to 100
- Identify less than and more than
- Count any number of objects 1-20
- Solve addition and subtraction problems within 10
- Add more objects to make numbers 1-9 equal 10
- Fluently add and subtract within 5
- Write numbers 0-20



SPECIAL AREAS

MUSIC

The objective in General Music is to develop awareness of the characteristics of musical sounds and silence, and the diversity of sounds in the environment through perceiving, performing, listening, and responding to music. Each grade level works with various percussive instruments and learning how to utilize their vocal cords. Listed below is a portion of activities that will take place throughout the year.

K2 through K5:

- Experiment with a range of classroom instruments such as wood blocks, triangles, rhythm sticks, maracas, guiros, jingle bells, sand blocks, cymbals, tambourines, and hand drums.
- Respond to repeated patterns heard in music.
- Identify repeated patterns heard in music.
- Identify sounds as fast/slow, loud/soft (quiet), long/short, high/low.
- Respond to changes heard in music: fast/slow, loud/soft (quiet), long/short, high/low.
- Experiment with vocal sounds that use a variety of pitches: singing in an age-appropriate range, speaking, whispering, and calling.
- Explore use of simple 2- or 4-beat rhythmic ostinatos.
- Sing or play in groups, matching tempo (fast and slow).
- Experience as an audience member a variety of concerts, plays, and other age-appropriate programming.
- Demonstrate understanding of personal space while moving to music.
- Listen for simple directions or verbal cues in singing games.
- Interpret stem notation used to represent rhythms.
- Participate in music activities that emphasize alphabet recognition, spatial relationships, and counting.

ART

All classes are designed to give students a basic introduction to all types of art. Projects are designed to give students the opportunity to explore a mass array of mediums while expanding and perfecting their skills. With the younger class ages emphasis is on fine motor skills, following step by step directions, color and shape use in a picture, control coloring within lines and all white spaces, color choices, ability to control scissor cutting, and the ability to use and control different types of glue. Art word vocabulary is also introduced throughout the year. Weeks or units all have a theme, based on a season, holiday, subject matter, or special event. Many projects are a result of collaboration with classroom teachers and units that the teacher may be instructing at the time!

LIBRARY

In Library, students are exposed to a wide variety of fiction, non-fiction, and reference books. Students will learn the differences between these and where to find them in the library. They will learn the correct way to care for books and Library materials. They learn about many different genres, such as holidays, seasons, fairy tales/American tall tales, historical figures, and poetry. Students learn the parts of a book and the elements of a story. They will be introduced to graphic organizers and sequencing in a story.

SPANISH

In a world that is growing smaller every day, it is imperative that schools foster a better understanding of other languages and cultures. Research indicates that early instruction in a second language offers obvious advantages in achieving proficiency in that language, as children are already applying the same skills in the acquisition of their native language.

K2:

- Introduction to Spanish
- Numbers and colors
- Sing songs in Spanish

K3-K5:

- Meet twice a week
- Study numbers, colors, days of the week, parts of the body
- Conduct activities related to holidays (Halloween, Christmas, Valentines)
- Domino colors and numbers

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education many aspects of movement, coordination, cooperative games are being taught and evaluated.

Such examples are:

- Cooperative games: Bouncing and dribbling, catching and throwing.
- Body Management: Left and right, warm up exercises, running, hopping, skipping, jumping.
- Locomotors: Involved in both Cooperative games and Body Management.
- Sportsmanship: Working together on a team, in partners, and encouraging others.
- Kids Heart Challenge: Working with the American Heart Association on challenges and supporting a great cause.
- End of year Field Day: Fun activities and snacks!



INTEGRATING
FAITH WITH LEARNING
S. CAROLINA