

Renewal Children’s Ministry Policies

01. Vision & Curriculum

Vision

To walk alongside parents in helping teach their children to understand and experience the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Curriculum

RCM uses *The Gospel Story for Kids* curriculum by Marty Machowski. It is a chronological study of the Bible for children, containing 158 lessons. The curriculum takes 3 years to complete, and children will go through the curriculum 3 times before entering Youth Group. As the child grows, the depth of the lessons will increase. All lessons are Christ-centered, and we pray that children will be able to know and repeat the Gospel story before graduating.

02. Policies & Procedures

Upon Arrival at Church

Your child will enter into the sanctuary with you and stay with you for the praise portion of the service. After praise, the presider will dismiss children to Sunday School. You may escort your child to their classroom.

If your child belongs to Nursery (6 months to 2 years), your child may be dropped off before the start of service. However, when Renewal only offers 1 Sunday service that day, your child will attend the praise portion of the service with you and be dismissed with the rest of the children.

If your child is in 6th grade and above, they are not a part of Children’s Ministry but Youth Group. They will stay with you for the entire duration of the service. There is no separate program for Youth Group on Sundays. Please go to our website to register your child for Youth Group: <https://renewalchurch.org/children-youth/>.

Classrooms

The following classes are effective Sept 12th, 2021:

Classroom	Age	Location	Teacher Ratio
Nursery	6mo to 2yr	Nursery Room	1:4
Younger Children	2yr* to Kindergarten	2nd Floor	1:6
Older Children	1st to 5th grade	Basement Lobby	1:12

*must be 2yr by Sept 1st, 2021

Drop-Off / Pick-Up

We ask that only one parent drops off their child and that the same parent picks up the child. When you drop off your child, you will be given a name tag with your child's name on it. You will hold onto that name tag and return it to the teacher in order to pick up your child.

Separation Anxiety

If your child is new or if your child is transitioning into a new classroom, one parent is allowed to stay with the child for the whole duration of class on the first day. On the second day, one parent is allowed to stay with the child for 30 minutes. On the third day, one parent is allowed to stay 15 minutes. On the 4th day, no parent is not allowed to stay. We ask that for each stay, you give plenty of verbal warning to your child about your departure. Then, when it is time to go, you say "goodbye" and promptly leave the classroom. If your child is unable to be comforted after your departure, a teacher will contact you to pick up the child.

03. Safety Policies

Teachers

There will always be two teachers per classroom. If at any moment one teacher needs to step out (i.e. to escort a child to the bathroom), the classroom door will stay open.

In order to teach, all teachers must go through an interview process, have a reference contacted, and obtain the following clearances: Child Abuse, Criminal Record, and FBI Fingerprint.

Restroom

For older children (1st to 5th grade), their classroom has a single stall restroom that is not accessed by other adults. Those children are able to go to and from the restroom on their own.

For younger children (2yr to 6yr), a teacher will escort the child from the 2nd floor to the multi-stall restroom on the 1st floor. At all times, the door will be propped open with a trashcan. If the child does not need assistance, the teacher will wait outside the bathroom door. If the child does need assistance, the teacher will keep the door propped open and enter the bathroom to assist the child.

04. Nursery Policies & Procedures

Age Range

Once your child is 6 months old, you can drop off your child in the Nursery. A teacher will collect your child's name, date of birth, and your contact information. When your child turns 2 years old, they will not immediately move up to the next class. We ask that you contact the Director, and the Director will see if there is space available. If there is no space available, the Director will start looking for additional teachers so that your child can move up.

Closed Door Policy

Once the door is closed, parents are not allowed to enter into the room. You are free to look through the window (1-way screen) to check on your child. If you need to enter the room, we ask that you first text the teacher inside. There will always be a number next to the door.

Food & Drink

We do not allow for snacks nor do we serve snacks in the Nursery. You may leave a water bottle or a milk bottle for your child. It must have your child's name labeled on the bottle. It can be left on top of the cubby shelf.

Cubbies

We do not let parents leave their bags in the Nursery. Instead, we ask that you leave 1 ziploc bag with your child's name on it. Inside the bag, please provide a diaper, set of travel wipes, and a change of clothes. The bag can be left in the Nursery, and a teacher will let you know if anything needs to be replaced.

Diaper Changing

Teachers will sanitize their hands before and after changing diapers. Because of covid, we ask that you do not send a child with a cloth diaper.

05. COVID**Virtual Accommodations**

We will continue to provide pre-recorded videos for Sunday School students until further notice. Videos will only be sent to families who have opted out of in-person worship entirely. If this applies to you, please contact the Director to be added to the listserv. At any time, you may bring your child to in-person service.

Masks

Children 2 years and older are required to wear masks. If your child is unable to keep their mask on, you will be contacted to pick up your child. We do have spare masks if your child's mask gets soiled, but if we run out, we will contact you to bring a new mask or pick up your child.

Teachers are also required to wear masks at all times.

Air Circulation

Each room has central air running. We will also keep windows open with air units to improve circulation. If a room does not have a window, we have placed an HVAC air purifier.

Hand Sanitizers

Hand sanitizers will be given to each child upon entering class (except for Nursery). If you do not want your child to use hand sanitizer, please let us know. Instead, we ask that you wash your child's hand prior to class.

Cleaning Policy

We will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (toys, tables, chairs, doorknobs, light switches, bathroom sink, bathroom toilet).

We use [Cleansmart Daily Surface Cleaner](#) to disinfect non-porous surfaces for our Children's Ministry, and we use [CleanSmart Nursery & Baby Care Disinfectant](#) to disinfect non-porous surfaces for Nursery.

We also reduced the number of toys and remove any plush/fabric toys.

Self-Screening

We ask that you do not send your child if they exhibit the following symptoms of COVID-19 or if anyone in the household exhibits symptoms in the past 24 hours:

- Frequent cough or shortness of breath
- TWO of the following symptoms: sore throat, chills, headaches, muscle pain, diarrhea loss of taste or smell
- Fever of 100.4 F or above

Also, we ask that you do not send your child if anyone in your household has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

If your child has attended Children's Ministry or Nursery and later tests positive for Covid within 14 days of attendance, please notify the Director providing details of your attendance. We will be tracking the attendance of all children and teachers.

06. Parent Involvement

There will be two periods in the year when Renewal only offers 1 service - winter holidays and summer. During that time, our teachers are given a break from Sunday School, and we expect parents to teach instead.

Parents will be assigned a Sunday. If they are not available, it is their responsibility to find a replacement. We expect parents to share an equal responsibility. The schedule will be provided in a month or more advance.

Parents are also expected to have their clearances processed. The Director will begin to ask and collect clearances well before parents are expected to teach.

Like our regular Sunday teachers, parents are expected to read the Bible passage, the teacher's guide, and review any worksheets before class. They are not responsible to plan a lesson themselves. A lesson guide and all supplies will be provided by the Director.

07. Other Policies

All other policies (i.e. teacher clearances, bathroom, discipline, etc) can be found in our “RPC Youth & Children Policy” document. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Director at wp.children@renewalchurch.org.