REGISTRATION FORM

2025-2026 School Year

CA	SY

Child Information

Date Completed _____

1 st Child (Required)						
Last Name	First Name	Name		MI	Nicknar	ne
	_					
Gender	Age	Age Birth Da			Birth City/S	tate:
[] Male []Female						
Existing medical conditions, medications and/or special attention your child may require						
Allergies						
Is your child napping (for extended day/clubhouse students only; all mini 2s and 2s must nap)?						
[] Yes [] No						
Photos: I give permission for CASY to post a photo/video of my child on:						
[] Social Media Pages []Website []School Emails (CASY Parents Only)						
Photos: May we take and maintain a ph	oto of your chi	ld for securi	ty purposes?			
[] Yes []No						
Desired Schedule (Required)						
Program		Days of th	ie Week			
	Norning Class	[] Mon-F	ri []MW	F] T/TH	
[] Lunch [] EXD [] C 2 nd Child	LUB					
Last Name	First Name			МІ	Nicknaı	 me
Last Hame	· ii se i iaiii e					
Gender	Age		Birth Date		Birth City/S	tate:
[] Male []Female						
Existing medical conditions, medications and/or special attention your child may require						
Allergies						
Is your child napping (for extended day/clubhouse students only; all mini 2s and 2s must nap)?						
[]Yes []No						
Photos: I give permission for CASY to post a photo/video of my child on:						
[] Social Media Pages []Website []School Emails (CASY Parents Only)						
Photos: May we take and maintain a photo of your child for security purposes?						
[] Yes []No						
Desired Schedule						
Program	Marning Class	Days of the Week				
	Morning Class CLUB] T/TH	

How did you hear about us?_____

Primary Guardian Information

Names(s) of person(s) with whom child is living.

1st Primary Guardian (Required)										
Last Name		First Name			MI	Relation	Relationship to Child			
Email Address		Work Phone			Cell Phone					
Occupation	Employer	Work Address			SS			Work Hours		
2 nd Primary Guardian										
Last Name		First N	First Name			MI	Relation	Relationship to Child		
Email Address			Work Phone				Cell Phone			
Occupation	Employer		Work Address		SS		Work Hours			
Which guardian should b	e called first?									
Home Resident Street Ad	ldress	Apt#			City			Zip Code		
Mailing Address (if differ	(if different than above) Apt#			City			Zip Code			
Emergency Contacts and Authorized Pickups										
1st Contact/Pickup (Requ	<mark>uired)</mark>	Final	N	_				- 01:11.1		
Last Name		First	First Name			R	Relationship to Child			
Cell Phone			[] Able to pick up all children in family							
[] Not able to pick up the following children: 2 nd Contact/Pickup (Required)										
Last Name	uirea)	First Name		e	R		Relationship to Child			
Cell Phone [] Able to pick up all children in family						,				
				[] Not able to pick up the following children:						
3rd Contact/Pickup (Required)										
Last Name		First	First Name			Relationship to Child		o Child		
Cell Phone				[] A	ble to pick up	all child	ren in family	,		
				[] N	ot able to pick	up the	following ch	ildren:		

CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT HISTORY

(NEW STUDENTS ONLY)



This confidential form is to help CASY Preschool support the growth and development of your child while creating a safe, stable, and healthy environment for all children. By providing complete information about your child, you will be assisting us in creating a positive experience for your child while in our care.

Instructions: This form is to be completed by a parent/guardian and must be on file at CASY Preschool on or before a child's first day of attendance. If additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

Child's Name:	Date of Birth:
Parent/Guardian Completing this Form:	Relationship to Child:
What is your preferred method of communication?	
School History	
	re center in the past? Yes No
If yes, what was the name of the preschool/o	childcare center?
What did you like most about your child's pr	revious preschool/childcare center?
What did you like the least?	
Social & Behavioral History	
Has your child been exposed to social group	settings with peers? Yes No
Does your child prefer to play alone or with	other children? Alone Other Children
Please list a few of your child's favorite activ	rities, toys and/or books:
Please list a few of you child's dislikes or fea	rs:
How do you know when your child is:	
Нарру?	
Mad?	
Tired?	
Hungry?	
Other Information	
Does your child have any physical disabilities	s or special needs? Yes No
If yes, what are they?	

Does your child have any health issues that we should be aware of? Yes No
If yes, please explain:
Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your child that you feel would help us create a positive environment and relationship for your child?
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

AKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM



I give permission for CASY to distribute my phone number to other CASY parents to be used for school activities. Yes No
I give permission for CASY to distribute my email address to other CASY parents to be used for school activities. Yes No
I give permission for CASY to place a photograph of video of my child on CASY social media pages Yes No
I give permission for CASY to place a photograph of video of my child on CASY's website.
Yes No
I give permission for CASY to use a photograph of my child in advertisements (flyers, brochures, magazine articles) for CASY. Yes No
I give permission for CASY to use a photograph of video of my child in emails sent only to other CASY familiesYesNo
I have received a copy of the CASY Handbook, and I understand and agree to all policies stated within. Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Required Forms to Complete Enro	llment
1. Registration Form	
2. Emergency Card	
3. Confidential Student History	
4. Copy of Immunizations	
5. Tuition Express Form (optional)	
6. Acknowledgement Form	
-	
Tuition Information	
Your tuition will be:	Required Deposit:
/MONT	H []\$200.00 []\$300.00 []Other:

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

2025-2026 School Year



Our Mission

CASY's mission is to provide an academically enriched environment that helps develop the interpersonal, intellectual and physical skills needed to be successful in a child's educational journey.

School Information

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday

Closed on holidays

Team of Directors: Lauren Siemon School Director

Jackie Onofry Director of Education

School Phone Number: 480-661-1930 School Fax Number: 480-317-7063

School Email Address: admin@casypreschool.com

School Website: casypreschool.com

School Address: 10409 E. McDowell Mountain Ranch Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Regulation of Our Facility

CASY Preschool is regulated by the Arizona Department of Health Services

150 N. 18th Ave, Suite 400

Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: 602-364-2539 Fax: 602-364-4768

Inspection Reports

Please note that each inspection report issued by the Arizona Department of Health Services is available on campus. Please see a Director to view these reports.

7:00am - 4:30pm

Liability Insurance Coverage

CASY Preschool carries liability insurance as required by state regulations. CASY's insurance coverage is available for review upon request.

Description of Services

Our preschool offers part-time and full-time care for children 18 months, two, three, four, and five-year old children.

Pesticide Use on Campus

It is our policy that we will display our yearly pesticide schedule in the front lobby. The dates, times, and chemicals used can be found on said document. Please see a Director to view this document. Notifications will be emailed out 48 hours before a pesticide is applied on campus.

Monthly Tuition

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month. When the 1st falls on a weekend, tuition will be due the following business day. Tuition is arranged into 10 monthly payments beginning on August 1st. Tuition is based on the number of school days within the school year; therefore, tuition is the same each month and will not be modified due to absences. A 10% sibling discount is automatically applied toward tuition for the second enrolled child and a 15% discount is applied for the third enrolled child.

Accepted Forms of Payment

Payments can be made by personal checks, cashier's checks, money orders, cash, or by Visa, Discover or MasterCard.

Late Fees

Tuition received 3 days past the due date will be subject to a \$35.00 late fee. An additional \$15.00 will be incurred for tuition received 10 days past the due date. Returned checks or declined credit cards due to insufficient funds are subject to a \$40.00 Fee. Note: for insufficient funds, future tuition payments must be paid by cashier's check, money order or cash.

Students who are not picked up at their assigned dismissal time will be assessed a late pick-up fee of \$10.00. Students who are not picked up within 10 minutes past their dismissal time will be charged an additional fee. If you are unable to pick up your child on time, please notify our front office by calling (480)-661-1930.

Registration Fee

Registration fees are due annually upon enrollment. All registration fees are non-refundable.

CASY Family Registration Fee \$200.00 for the first child / \$100.00 additional children

New Family Registration Fee \$300.00 for the first child / \$200.00 additional children

Refund Policy

All tuition, registration fees, drop-in fees, and deposits are non-refundable. Disenrollment without a 30-day notice will not result in a refund for any tuition for days not used during that month. Prorating and adjustments to tuition will be made only for those who submit a 30-day notice, per our policy. Credits and/or refunds will only be processed if there are clerical billing errors posted to the account holders ledger.

Waitlists

Families can elect to be placed on a waitlist if the program(s) they desire are currently full for no additional charge. Classrooms and programs are filled at the discretion of CASY administration. Families will be notified by CASY Preschool upon availability and have 24 hours to accept the available schedule.

Curriculum

CASY Preschool offers a warm, nurturing environment where children can feel safe, cared for, and valued. Our school tailors a unique and enriching curriculum which combines the Arizona State Early Learning Standards, music, and art. With a focus on individualized learning plans, our curriculum is accelerated to prepare every child for success in kindergarten. We will help foster the developmental, social, and communicative skills needed to help a child feel a part of a classroom and understand the world around them. We provide the perfect balance of Arts and Academics to create a well-rounded child who can thrive based on their natural talents and skill.

Registration & Enrollment

To complete enrollment, all documentation, immunizations, and annual registration fees must be submitted. The registration fee is non-refundable unless the student has not been accepted by CASY. Registration paperwork will ask families to provide us with important contact information. Please notify the school as soon as any phone numbers or email addresses change. Our registration paperwork will ask for other important information regarding your child. For his or her safety, please make sure all documents are filled out completely and accurately.

Immunization Requirements

CASY Preschool follows the Arizona Department of Health Services immunization requirements (please refer to attachment below). All enrolled students are required to have an updated immunization record on file. If an immunization record becomes out-of-date, CASY administration will notify parents in writing. Parents have 15 calendar days after the date of notification to provide the school with the updated immunization record. Failure to do so will result in the child being unable to attend school until the proper documentation is provided. Immunizations can be faxed to 480-314-7306.

An exemption form must be completed and signed by a medical professional for students who have a delayed immunization schedule.

Students who lack proof of immunity against any disease listed on the vaccination requirements will not be permitted on campus at any time between the start and end of an outbreak.

Classroom Placements

A child's age as of September 1st is used as a guideline for classroom placement. To ensure fairness and consistency among admission, this guideline is firm and not up for negotiation. To enroll, all students must be 18 months or older by September 1st of the upcoming school year. Admission will not be granted to students who turn 18 months after the September 1st cutoff date. Students will be placed in age-appropriate classes throughout their entire school day (early morning – clubhouse).

Classes are configured to provide the best preschool experience for all students. CASY takes several factors into consideration when placing a child. For this reason, teacher requests are not guaranteed or always granted.

Potty Training

Mini Twos and Twos students <u>do not</u> need to be potty-trained to attend. All children enrolled in the Threes or Pre-K classes <u>must be</u> potty-trained to attend. This is a state requirement and cannot be negotiated.

While we are very understanding that accidents do happen, students enrolled in our Threes or Pre-K classes may be sent home to "retrain" if several accidents reoccur on a regular basis.

Lunches

CASY Preschool does not provide lunch for students. Students who stay for lunch will need to bring a packed lunch from home daily. CASY does not have the means to heat lunches for multiple students at once, so we ask that all lunches are ready-to-serve meals. Please note that lunches are stored in your child's classroom cubby. Please use thermoses to keep food warm or ice packs to keep food cold, if necessary.

Additional Programs

Tuition does not cover additional school programs, such as Summer Camp. Enrollment forms for additional programs will be made available to families in advance. Parents must enroll children for additional programs in advance for students to attend. Any additional programs are subject to cancelation due to insufficient registration.

Termination of Services

A 30-day notice is required, in writing, for withdrawal from our program. No financial adjustment will be made for sudden withdrawals. Financial adjustments will also not be made for end-of-the semester withdrawals (December or May).

In certain circumstances it may be necessary to discontinue a child's enrollment. This decision is based on the best interest of the child, other children in the class, and the well-being of everyone at the school. Every effort will be made to correct a situation before a final decision is made (i.e., redirecting behaviors, providing choices, offering families resources or other interventions). Disenrollment may be a result of the following:

- Abuse of other children, staff, or property by child or parent/guardian.
- Continued violation of policies by child or parent/guardian.
- Disruptive or dangerous behavior by child or parent/guardian.
- The school's inability to meet the child's needs or the parent's/guardian's expectations.

This is a partial list, and we reserve the right to end the enrollment of a child at any time for any reason deemed appropriate. Whenever possible, prior notification will be provided to the parent.

Behavioral Policies

Learning boundaries and appropriate behaviors in a classroom setting is a part of growing at Preschool. At CASY Preschool, our teachers provide learning opportunities for the children to gain a deeper understanding of empathy, self-expression, and self-control. Our polices are designed to help manage unacceptable behaviors and remain a safe environment for everyone.

The following behaviors are, but not limited to, biting, hitting, spitting, kicking, bodily harm with physical force or objects, inappropriate or aggressive language, hostile or inappropriate touch. Immediate action will be provided.

1st offense: Parents will also receive a written incident report.

<u>2nd offense</u>: If there is a second offense within a five-week period, a parent teacher conference will be recommended. Depending on the severity of the incident and the time frame since the prior incident, administrators will work with the teachers to come up with a corrective plan of action.

3rd offense: Upon the third offense, the parent will be issued a formal notification, which acts as a final warning.

4th offense: The action taken for a 4th offense within the five-week timeframe will be left to the discretion of the administration. This includes but is not limited to suspension from school and/or termination of services. If suspension is recommended, to hold your child's space in our program, tuition will be due regardless of absenteeism. CASY Preschool reserves the right to decide the amount of time based on the circumstances surrounding the incidents.

The purpose of suspending a child for habitual harmful behaviors is mainly to ensure the safety of the classmates, not to correct the behavior. Please assist us in speaking with and working with your child at home on how to correct problematic behaviors.

The administration holds the right to assess and evaluate any additional inappropriate behaviors not listed above that may take place on campus and determine the best course of action based on the safety needs of the students and staff.

Developmental Screenings

CASY Preschool employees utilize the CDC's milestone checklist to assess the progress of our students. If a teacher notes that a student is not meeting the milestones for his or her age, they will work with administration to complete the CDC's milestone checklist to track development. Parents will be advised to meet with your child's healthcare provider to review the checklist. *Please note that these checklists are not a substitute for standardized, validated developmental screening tool.* A specialist will be required to perform an official evaluation. Your physician will be able to supply you with referrals if they feel additional screenings are necessary. At the same time, you seek a referral to a specialist, call your local public school to request a free evaluation to find out if your child qualifies for intervention services. You do not need to wait for a doctor's referral or a medical diagnosis to make this call. *If you or your child's teachers are concerned about your child's development, don't wait to seek help. Early intervention on developmental concerns can make a significant difference for your child.*

Children with Special Needs

We act in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable federal, state, or local laws pertaining to the provision of services to children with disabilities. Our goal is to meet the individual needs of the children within the structure of our program. We will make reasonable accommodations to allow children with disabilities full and equal enjoyment of our programs in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. We will make no assumptions concerning any individual's abilities or disabilities and will make an individual assessment to determine if we can meet each child's needs in our group preschool setting.

Procare App

Upon enrollment, parents/guardians will be sent a link to join Procare. Procare will be used to sign students in and out of school, communicate with members of CASY Preschool, receive updates and photos, and much more. Parents/guardians will need to download the app prior to the child's first day of school. Other authorized pickups will receive a code to sign-in/out at the front desk. Administration can assist with the Procare onboarding process.

Dropping Off Your Child

All children, regardless of age, are always to be with an adult, especially when exiting your vehicle in our parking lot. Please lock your car, as we cannot be held responsible for any personal belongings taken from your vehicle while they are on our property. During drop off time, parents are to escort children to their assigned classrooms where they will sign in using the Brightwheel app. It is especially important that parents sign in daily. Once the child is signed in, and in the teachers' care, parents are free to leave campus.

Picking Up Your Child

All approved adult for picks ups must wear a name badge upon entry to the school. During dismissal times, parents and/or authorized adults will pick their child up from their assigned classroom and sign the child out using the Brightwheel app. Please make sure to sign in and out daily.

We kindly ask that students are picked up at their designated dismissal time. If you are going to be late, please call the front office as soon as possible. A late fee will be assessed to billing accounts for all late pick-ups. All students must be picked up from school by 4:30pm. If we do not receive a call from you confirming you are running late and we cannot reach you or your emergency contacts after 4:30pm, we may be required to call local authorities to help assist with the situation. Staff members are not permitted to take a child home with them or drop a child off at their house, regardless of parent permission.

Releasing Your Child

Please fill out the necessary paperwork if someone other than a parent/guardian is picking up your child. We will only release a child to his or her parents/guardians and the individuals listed on the child's emergency contact and/or approved pick up form. We will not release a child to anyone under the age of eighteen, including siblings. Authorized contacts will need to provide the school with a government-issued photo identification card before we can release the child to their care. Under no circumstances will children be allowed to leave school unsupervised.

Absences

Please notify the school via email or voicemail if your child is going to be absent. If your child is ill, you must notify us of the nature of the illness, particularly if it is contagious. No credit, refunds, trading days, or make-up days shall be made for absences. Tuition must still be paid in full.

Non-Discrimination Policy

CASY will provide an environment that is free from unlawful discrimination of any type, including discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law. This policy governs all aspects of our schools' operations.

Parent Involvement

We welcome parents of enrolled students in our preschool to join us for various classroom or school wide activities, celebrations, or events. We will inform parents through newsletters and emails of upcoming events. Parents who wish to volunteer should speak to their child's teachers to work out a plan. Parents may opt to bring in snacks for classroom or school events. Please note that all snacks must be store bought for allergy purposes. Parents are encouraged to ask for any allergy restrictions prior to bringing in a snack. Any parent who volunteers to assist or attend any activity on campus is expected to behave in a respectful and appropriate way towards all children. All parent volunteers must sign in at the front desk. Parents have access to school areas where children receive childcare services.

Holidays and Birthdays

Holidays reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of our families and provide the children with an opportunity to learn about each other. We strongly encourage families to share their won traditions with their child's class. We ensure that all holiday experiences are developmentally appropriate, reflective of the diversity of the families in our program and are meaningful to the interests of the children. Your child's birthday is also a very special time for him or her. We encourage you to bring in a special birthday snack on your child's birthday to celebrate with his or her classmates. Please remember that all snacks must be store bought to ensure the safety of children who may have allergies.

Field Trips & Transportation

CASY Preschool does not coordinate or participate in field trips. We do not provide transportation to and from school. In addition, CASY staff members will not provide transportation to and from school in their personal vehicle.

Administration of Medication

CASY Preschool will only administer medication to students who have a medical consent form filled out by a parent or a legal guardian. Medical consent forms need to be completed for every prescription medication, including an EpiPen. Medication brought to the school must be in its original packaging with a valid prescription label. All medication doses will be documented on a child's medical consent form, which will be kept in their student file. All medication will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in the office except for EpiPens. EpiPen's will remain in the student's classroom and out of reach from any child. The Director or front office administrator will be responsible for administering all non-emergency medication.

Social Media

We encourage families to engage with us both at school and on social media. Our Facebook and Instagram pages are an excellent source of informative school updates, helpful parenting tips, and fun interactive media. These online communities will provide the school with a place to share stories of wonderful experiences had at the school, as well as cute pictures of our students. We will only post photos of students on our social media pages if parents grant CASY permission. Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CASYPreschoolAZ/ and on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/casypreschoolaz/?hl=en (@casypreschoolaz).

Newsletters

To keep you informed, we publish and distribute monthly classroom newsletters. These newsletters contain important information regarding the classroom's curriculum, upcoming events, and parent resources. Newsletters will be made available to all parents of enrolled students.

Outdoor Activities

Outdoor play is an essential part of your child's day. We will monitor the weather throughout the day to ensure the safety of the children. Please be sure to dress your child appropriately for outdoor play. In the summertime, children will not play outside, apart from water days, due to extreme heat. An indoor recreation room will be set up during the summer months to ensure that children are still doing physical activity.

Student Accidents

After an accident, injury or medical emergency occurs, you will receive an incident report describing how the incident happened and the actions taken by a qualified staff member. Parents will also be notified of severe accidents and emergencies by phone. Teachers will notify parents of students who sustain a scrape, scratch, bump, etc. that day by phone or with a note.

Emergency Medical Procedure

If your child becomes ill or incurs a minor injury while in our care, our staff will perform basic first aid to treat the illness or injury. If the illness or injury requires more than basic first aid, you will be contacted and asked to pick up your child to transport them to a medical care facility for treatment. In the event of a medical emergency, we may act under the authority of the signed medical emergency consent form, found in the registration packet, that and take the emergency measures deemed necessary for the medical care and

protection of your child. If we cannot contact you, we will make continuous efforts to contact you, or someone listed by you as an emergency contact. Please keep all current contact information, emergency medical information, and authorization for medical treatment current.

Fire Drills

We conduct fire drills regularly. Parents, staff, and children will not always be aware of drill dates or times, as this is the most effective way to assess the success of emergency plans. During a fire drill, parents may not sign their children in or out of the building. They must wait until the child has returned to his or her class.

In the event of a real fire or emergency, a Director will inform classroom staff that the school will be evacuated. Parents will be notified as soon as possible. If it becomes necessary to remove the children from school property, your child will be able to be picked up at our evacuation site – the parking lot across the street (N 104th St, Scottsdale, AZ 85255).

Mandated Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

As stewards of childcare providers and educators, we take our responsibility for child safety seriously. Abuse and neglect, whether physical or emotional, can happen in all types of families, from all walks of life, and to varying degrees. Our staff have been trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. Furthermore, the **law requires us to report all cases of abuse or neglect.** This includes any self-reported instances of potential abuse from a child. Please understand that this is our legal responsibility. CASY Preschool is only responsible for reporting suspected abuse or neglect and not responsible for the investigation.

ILLNESS POLICY & GUIDELINES

The following signs and symptoms are the guidelines that CASY Preschool follows. Please use these guidelines when deciding on your child's wellness for the school day. If your child displays any of these symptoms, please do not send your child to school. It is a good rule of thumb to keep children home if their symptoms impact their baseline behavior and demeanor. If a child' symptom(s) prevent them from completing regular school activities, they should stay home and rest.

Teacher will call the parent or guardian and ask them to take the child home if the following signs and symptoms are noticed.

<u>Fever</u>: 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above. To return to school., student must be fever-free without the use of fever reducing medication, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen. https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/fever.html

<u>Nasal Discharge</u>: Any yellow or green discharge from the nose is one of the most common first signs of illness. This is a sign of infection. Please keep your child at home. Your child may return to school when discharge is clear again.

Vomiting or Diarrhea: Students may return to school after being symptom free for 72 hours or in 24 hours with a doctor's note.

<u>Persistent Cough & Congestion:</u> Symptoms like cough and mild congestion can be tricky when deciding whether to keep your child at home. It is best to monitor their behavior and make note of any changes. If your child has a mild cough but there are no changes to their behavior, chances are they are well enough to attend school. On the other hand, if they have been coughing all night, have a persistent deep and/or wet cough, and noticeable changes in their usual behavior, they should stay home from school.

<u>Pink Eye:</u> white or yellow eye discharge, matted eyelids, and redness of eyelids and surrounding skin. Students can return 24 hours after treatment has begun.

<u>Unusual spots or rashes:</u> Many rashes can be symptoms of contagious illnesses like meningitis or measles. Students cannot return to school until they are seen and cleared by a healthcare provider.

Common Illnesses: Requiring students to stay home until symptoms subside

<u>Flu:</u> Individuals with suspected or confirmed flu should stay home from work at least 4-5 days after the onset of symptoms. Persons with the flu are most contagious during the first 3 days of their illness. https://www.cdc.gov/flu/business/stay-home-when-sick.htm

<u>Pink Eye:</u> white or yellow eye discharge, matted eyelids, and redness of eyelids and surrounding skin. Students can return 24 hours after treatment has begun.

Strep Throat: Students can return 24 hours after treatment has begun and are fever-free.

<u>Hand, Foot & Mouth:</u> Students can return to school after fever has been gone for 24 hours without fever reducing medication **and** blisters are dried up.

BITING POLICY & GUIDELINES

We are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for every child. We recognize that biting can be a common behavior among young children, especially in a preschool setting. However, it is our goal to minimize instances of biting through proactive prevention strategies, effective support for the hurt child, and appropriate interventions for the child who bites.

Prevention Strategies

- 1. **Educating Teachers and Staff**: All staff members will receive training on child development, social-emotional learning, and best practices for managing unpredictable behaviors such as biting.
- 2. **Frequent Communication**: Open communication between teachers and parents will be established to foster a collaborative approach to addressing behaviors that may lead to biting.

3. Creating a Safe Environment:

- o Classrooms will be set up with age-appropriate materials that promote sharing and cooperative play.
- Clearly defined areas for different types of play (e.g., active play, quiet play) will be established to reduce overstimulation.
- 4. **Routine and Structure**: A consistent daily schedule will help children feel secure, reducing anxiety or frustration that may lead to biting incidents.

5. Social-Emotional Learning:

- Implementing programs that teach children about emotions, empathy, and conflict resolution.
- Regular role-playing activities will be included to give children tools to express their feelings verbally.
- 6. **Positive Reinforcement**: Recognizing and celebrating positive interactions among peers to encourage appropriate social behaviors.

Supporting the Recipient of the Bite

- 1. **Immediate Aid**: As soon as a biting incident occurs, the teacher will attend to the child's injury, ensuring they are physically and emotionally supported.
- 2. **Emotional Validation**: Teachers will acknowledge and validate the injured party's feelings, reassuring them that they are safe and cared for.
- 3. **Communication with Parents**: Parents of the child who was bitten will be notified about the incident, explaining what transpired and the steps taken to support their child.
- 4. **Follow-Up**: Teachers will engage in follow-up discussions with the injured party, checking in to ensure they feel secure during playtime and helping them process their feelings regarding the incident.

Interventions for the Child Who Bites

- 1. **Understanding Behavior**: Teachers will work to identify triggers or patterns that lead to biting behavior, such as frustration, inability to communicate needs, or conflicts with peers.
- 2. **Calming Breaks**: A break away from the activity at hand may be used immediately after biting to help the child reflect on their behavior; however, this will be communicated as a teachable moment rather than a punishment.
- 3. **One-on-One Support**: Teachers may provide additional one-on-one time with the child after an incident to discuss feelings, teach coping strategies, and model appropriate play behaviors.
- 4. **Behavior Monitoring**: A record of behaviors will be maintained to identify any persistent patterns that may require further intervention and support. (Continued on the next page) →

Steps to Follow for Excessive Biting

- 1. **Assessment**: If a child bites more than three times in a two-week period, the teachers will conduct an assessment coupled with observations to better understand the underlying causes of the behavior.
- 2. **Parent Meeting**: A meeting will be scheduled with the parents/guardians to discuss the findings, share concerns, and collaboratively develop an action plan.
- 3. **Individualized Behavior Support Plan**: Depending on the assessment and observation findings, a tailored behavior support plan may be developed, outlining specific interventions, strategies, and goals for the child.

4. Teacher Shadowing Option:

- If biting persists despite interventions, parents may choose to pay for an additional teacher to shadow the child for a specified period to provide more focused support and supervision, reducing the likelihood of further incidents.
- Alternatively, a temporary suspension may be necessary if biting behavior becomes unmanageable or poses a safety concern for other children.
- 5. **Review and Adjust**: The effectiveness of the plan will be reviewed biweekly, and adjustments will be made based on the child's progress and continued input from parents and staff.
- 6. **Documentation**: All incidents will be documented, and parents will be informed at each stage of the process to ensure transparency and collaborative efforts.

While biting can be a challenging behavior in preschool settings, our comprehensive biting policy aims to support all children and families while maintaining a safe and loving environment. Through proactive strategies, timely interventions, and open communication, we believe that we can reduce biting incidents and foster positive social interactions among children.