

GRAND PARKWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Child Protection Safety & Security Practices

It is the practice of the Children's Ministry of Grand Parkway Baptist Church to exercise reasonable care in the supervision of all volunteers/workers who serve in the preschool & children's Ministry for church activities.

Adults who have been convicted of child abuse, either physical or sexual, or who have a history of inappropriate conduct with children will not be allowed to serve as a volunteer or worker in any church sponsored program, activity or class involving children at Grand Parkway Baptist Church. Adults who have been the victims of child physical or sexual abuse need and will receive love and acceptance from our church family. These adults may be allowed to work with children after an interview with and only at the discretion of a member of the pastoral staff.

Additionally, we adhere to the following:

1. **SCREENING PROCESS:** All volunteers undergo a screening process which may include application, references checked and personal interview. All volunteers must agree to have background check.
2. **TWO ADULT RULE:** A minimum of two adults will be present with any group of children during any church-related activity. Students under age 18 may only work with children age 15 months and older.
3. **OPEN DOOR POLICY:** There will be easy visibility in all preschool and children's classrooms and meeting areas. If the door is closed to the room, a small viewing window in the door, allowing visibility into the room, will function as the 'open door'. At no time should volunteers be alone with a child in a closed area.
4. **SECURITY SYSTEM:** An identification/security system will be used when preschool children are left in the care of Grand Parkway Baptist Church. Adult will sign their children into the nursery and preschool rooms, utilizing the uniquely numbered stickers. The child will only be released when that number is presented to the worker.
5. **ATTENDANCE:** Records will be kept every time children are in our care. These will be kept on file for at least three years.
6. **SUPERVISION:** Church leadership (including the Child Care Coordinator, Preschool Ministry Director, Children's Pastor, and other church staff or elders) may make random visits to the classrooms for observation and inspection.
7. **PARENTAL PERMISSION:** For any off-campus activity involving children, parental permission will be required.
8. **ABUSE PREVENTION:** Volunteers will be provided information for awareness and education of child abuse and neglect, its impact on children and behaviors to avoid when working with children.
9. **RESPONDING & REPORTING:** Volunteers will be provided information as to the appropriate response and reporting process that should take place in the event of observed inappropriate behavior or suspicion of child abuse / neglect.