

Teaching Biblical Truth to Preschoolers

Teaching Biblical Truth in Safety

The top priority of all of our children's ministry programs is to provide a safe environment for children to learn and play while their parents attend Core Seminar classes (*Sunday School a la CHBC*) or the worship services. To this end, require all potential children's workers to:

- Attend a Childcare Training Class
- Go through a Screening/Application Process
- Learn and adhere to our Child Protection Policy procedures

Child training classes

This class is led by one of the Deacons of Child Care or the Pastor of Families and Children. Child Training Classes take place about two or three times a month, immediately after the morning worship service. Attendees learn about the Child Protection Policy and why it is so important that we follow it carefully. The class takes about one hour. For more information, contact the Children's Ministry Administrator, at Capitol Hill Baptist Church, (202) 543-6111.

Screening/application process

As another precaution, all potential children's workers must fill out a Children's Ministry Workers Application. This application requests basic information about each worker, as well as questions about your previous experience working with children. It also asks for a number of references that will be contacted and questions related to any criminal offenses or instances of abuse. Each person's name is also submitted to the Department of Justice Screening System which does a background check for similar offenses. All application information is treated with the utmost confidentiality by the Pastor of Families and Children. While it may feel awkward to have to ask such questions, they are a necessary part in achieving our goal for a safe environment for the children. For further information about this process, please contact Deepak Reju, the Pastor for Families and Counseling at Capitol Hill Baptist Church.

Child protection policy

Our child protection policy have been developed around two key principles:

1. No one adult should be alone with one child at any time.
2. When in doubt, call a hall monitor or a parent.

It includes the use of:

- Matching wristbands for all children and their parents so that the right children go home with the right adults
- Red wristbands for children with special allergy alerts
- A family number identification system which flashes up on number boards in the worship hall' if a parent is needed during the worship services
- Procedures for taking boys and girls to the bathroom
- What to do in an emergency or when an accident occurs

The full Child Protection Policy is reviewed in the Child Training meetings and is also available in the church office and on the church website.