

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL



ENGLEWOOD BAPTIST
1 NOVEMBER 2021

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In education, **student engagement** refers to the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students show while they are learning or being taught; this extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education.

The concept of “student engagement” is predicated on the belief that learning improves when students are inquisitive, interested, or inspired, and that learning tends to suffer when students are bored, dispassionate, disaffected, or otherwise “disengaged.”

As most, if not all, things in education, there are differing definitions and opinions. Perhaps author, Phil Schlechty, best defines engagement. He says that engaged students exhibit three characteristics: (1) they are attracted to their work, (2) they persist in their work and (3) they take visible delight in accomplishing their work. Engaging a student is not the same as keeping a student busy. While there may be some VERY minor benefit to busy work, the effective teacher engages – yes, even a preschooler. How? Keep it short, capitalize on interests, repeat it and offer choice are great ways to begin.

RESOURCE: How to Engage Preschoolers

<https://www.helpsteaching.com/blog/how-to-engage-young-learners-toddler-and-preschool.html>



“The drop off and pick up lines were great and made life a lot easier but I did miss daily contact with teachers. If there was a way to preserve either drop off or pick up next year, it would be most appreciated.”

WPS has tried to address both of the above requests – preserving drop-off and pick-up lines while making contact with teachers possible. We do this by inviting parents to events like The Pumpkin Farm/Cider & Coffee but we also encourage and support face-to-face parent conferences. If your child’s teacher hasn’t contacted you for a conference, please contact her! I am also available for parent conferences!

Mrs. Kay, Nutrition Services

Mrs. Kay, or as many of the students call her, "Mrs. Kitchen," has served Englewood Baptist Weekday Preschool for 20 years – as a teaching assistant, the director of Mother's Morning Out and now in Nutrition Services, where her chief goal and joy each day is to prepare and serve morning and afternoon snacks and lunch for all-day students.

Married to her high school sweetheart, Ronnie, for 39 years, the Prices have three wonderful children and two precious grandchildren.

Another joy of Mrs. Kay's is serving in the Englewood Baptist AWANA ministry. It seems her days are filled with children. She says that hearing the children say, "Thank you, Mrs. Kay," makes washing all those dishes worth it!



LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day	WPS Closed for Students & Staff
Sunday, November 14	EBC Fall Fest	Englewood Pavilion, 4:00-8:00 PM
Tuesday, November 23	Second Progress Report	
Thursday, November 25	Thanksgiving Holiday	WPS Closed for Students & Staff
Friday, November 26	Thanksgiving Holiday	WPS Closed for Students & Staff
Wednesday, December 22	Winter Break Begins	WPS Closed for Students
Monday, January 3	Classes Resume	



Your little one may be all about Paw Patrol, Skittles and sneakers that light up. But these days will pass quickly, and soon your 'little one' will be a 'big one' making decisions for him/herself. Pray now for wisdom and for preparation for what lies ahead, and teach him/her to pray. (Jeremiah 29:11, Deuteronomy 31:6, Romans 12:2)

Are you praying for your little one?

If you aren't, who is?



TES

The most recent iteration of the **ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit** (updated October 15) notes, “After months of decline, North Carolina is experiencing a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations among those who are unvaccinated. The Delta variant, which is now the predominant strain of the COVID-19 virus in North Carolina, is significantly more contagious than the original virus. While the original virus spread from one person to an average of two or three people, the Delta variant is spreading from one person to an average of six people. Therefore, unvaccinated people are at greater risk of catching and spreading COVID-19, and they pose a risk to children under 12 who cannot be vaccinated and those who are immunocompromised.”

The toolkit, as before, issues requirements and recommendations, the latter based on guidance the state receives from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). One recommendation is that “Childcare providers should continue to consult with local public health officials about transmission and vaccine rates in their community to make operational decisions.”

What’s new in the guidance? Some of the language and some of the definitions have changed. Some of the changes will be summarized here. WPS Guidance will be revised and posted on our webpages. Parents will be notified when the revised guidance has been posted. Always we encourage you to check our webpages.



The following definitions were revised:

Close Contact: Being within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

Exposure: Being in close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 while they are contagious. Individuals are contagious starting from 2 days before symptoms began (or, for asymptomatic individuals, 2 days prior to test specimen collection date) until they have completed isolation.

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NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL FAMILY LITERACY MONTH



It’s a great time for your family to learn together! Go to the library. Start a neighborhood book exchange. Write notes to each other. Donate books. Get creative!

PBS at Home: 9 Early Literacy Activities

CHECK THIS OUT

WHAT SYMPTOMS EXCLUDE A CHILD FROM WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL?

Turning 4? It's time to wear a mask at Weekday Preschool. Plan and prepare now for your child's 4th birthday!



A significant update noted in the **ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit** is a revision of the symptom list that determines which children and adults SHOULD be excluded from childcare. The revisions are aligned with the current CDC guidance.

NC Childcare programs are required to:

- Exclude children based on local public health department recommendations for a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed to COVID-19. [Required by NC GS § 130A-144.]
- Immediately notify the local health department if they have reason to suspect that a person within the child care facility has COVID-19.
- Exclude children if: The child
 - has a fever taken by any method, including at armpit or orally:
 - A child older than two months has a temperature of 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
 - An infant younger than two months has a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
 - Has two or more episodes of vomiting within a 12-hour period or
 - Has more than two stools above the child's normal pattern and diarrhea is not contained by a diaper or when toilet-trained children are having accidents
 - Is unable to participate comfortably in activities.
 - Has symptoms that result in a need for care that is greater than the staff members can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children. [Required by North Carolina Child Care Rules 10A NCAC 09 .0804 and .1720(a).]

We Wear Masks A SOCIAL STORY

Social Stories are a research-based tool used to help children prepare for real-life events. They can help ease anxiety or set expectations for behavior in certain situations that your child is likely to experience. Here's a social story about wearing masks:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnP-uMn6q_U