

BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Preschool Parent Handbook



Sample Daily Schedule

Schedule varies from classroom to classroom and may be changed to meet the needs of the children

8:00	Classrooms open
8:15	Circle
8:45	Specials
9:15	Snack/ Playground
10:00	Centers
11:00	Bible/ closing Circle
11:30	VPK only dismissal/ Playground
12:00	Lunch
12:30	Half day dismissal/ Centers, story
1:00	Rest
2:15	Quiet activities, prepare for home
2:30	Full day dismissal

Sample Specials Schedule

Monday– Library Tuesday– Spanish

Wednesday– Music Thursday– Chapel Friday– Weekly Reader

BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Our Philosophy

Bradenton Christian Preschool believes that each child is a distinctive creation of God made with spiritual, physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs. The purpose of the early childhood education program, in conjunction with the Christian home and the church, is to nurture and “train up a child in the way he should go”. This is accomplished by experiencing knowledge and truth in a Christian atmosphere and establishing Christian patterns of thinking and behavior.



The early childhood education program is a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere with a distinct Christian emphasis. Each child is guided to grow spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically and academically!

Arrival & Departure

Arrival

VPK Students: 8:10

Half Day Students: 7:45-8:15

Full Day Students: 7:45-8:15

Classrooms open at 7:45

- Park in the WBBC East parking lot
- Students must be escorted to their classroom
- Parent/guardian must sign child in upon arrival in designated sign in book, located outside of classroom

Pick-Up

VPK Students: 11:30 am

Half Day Students: 12:30 pm

Full Day Students: 2:30-2:45 pm

- Parent/guardian must sign the student out and record the time of departure.
- Students will be released only to adults listed on the “pick-up” information form. WRITTEN PERMISSION is needed to release a student to anyone not on the list. IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED.

Please be prompt!

- VPK & Half Day students will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute.
- Full day students must be picked up before 2:45. Any student not picked up by 2:45 will be sent by bus to aftercare at the main campus. Aftercare is \$10 per day.

Preschool Panthercare

BCS Main Campus Panthercare is scheduled after full days of school from 3:00 to 5:30. There is a charge of \$10 per day for attendance and it will be applied to the student’s FACTS account. For a preschooler to attend Panthercare, we request that they are pre-registered. Students that have not been picked up by the 2:45 pm deadline will be considered an attendee of Aftercare and will be charged the daily fee of \$10.

Preschool students will be transported by a BCS school bus to the main campus where they will then be received by the BCS aftercare staff and safely brought into the Elementary auditorium. For the assured safety of all students, pick-up will not be an option while students are departing the bus. Children can be picked up by their pre-authorized pick-up adult after 3:00 and before 5:30. If you arrive early at the main campus, you are welcome to check in at the Elementary office.

To register your student for Panthercare, choose the “Student life” tab on the BCS website bcspanthers.org

Ready for School

Absences

If your child is going to be absent, you must notify the school office by 9:00 am.

The direct number to the BCS preschool office is 941-404-4491

Dress Code

We are very creative – messy activities abound, and are a hallmark of a high-quality school!

- Please send your child to school in clothes that you don't mind getting messy or stained.
- Shoes must be safe for all activities--especially the playground
- We recommend school shoes to be non-tying- sneaker-type, rubber-soled, close-toed shoes - *no Crocs, no "party shoes", no flip-flops, clogs, boots, sandals, etc.*
- We encourage no jewelry other than small stud earrings— jewelry can be lost or damaged during active play and is also a hazard on the playground.
- Please remember to label everything your child brings to school

Backpacks

- Your child will need a standard size (*approximately 13" x 16"*) backpack with a top zipper opening to bring home notes, projects and other information from school.
- Please keep an extra full change of clothing in your child's backpack (shorts, shirt, underwear and socks) in a ziplock bag in case of accidents or messy moments at school.



BIRTHDAYS & PARTIES

Birthdays

Birthday celebrations are welcomed!



Due to allergies and state regulations, all birthday treats are store bought in original packaging w/ingredient list

Please avoid icing or frosting.

We welcome:

- mini-muffins
- donut holes
- ice cream cups
- ice cream sandwiches
- cookies
- rice crispy treats (store bought)
- brownies
- fruit snacks

Please ask your child's teacher for a count

Please note: Birthday party invitations may be sent home from school with students only if all the children in the class are invited to the party.

Holidays

We celebrate: Harvest Time, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter.

Optional sign up sheets will be available in the classroom for parents to provide snacks and supplies as needed for these parties.

Discipline

Discipline/Appropriate Guidance Policy

The teachers of Bradenton Christian School provide a nurturing environment that supports the natural growing process of each child, including learning how to cooperate in a social setting.

Our classroom discipline focuses on positive reinforcement of acceptable behaviors. Inappropriate behaviors are redirected toward acceptable behavior through modeling and positive reinforcement. Children are never allowed to hurt one another or to damage property.

Consequences are structured in a firm but respectful manner, and the child is an active participant in the process, maintaining their dignity and self-respect. Teachers and children work together, enabling the child to respond in a more positive way the next time the situation occurs.

We encourage self-discipline and allow for errors and new trials during their learning process. Children learn to make good choices and to be accountable for their choices, gaining self-control and self-esteem as they learn to manage conflicts and classroom interactions.

Occasionally a child will be unable to positively respond to the usual methods (redirection, separation from the group, loss of privileges, negotiating or logical consequences) available to the teachers for controlling unacceptable behaviors. In this case, parents are apprised of the situation and may be called in by the director/principal for a conference with the goal of working together to resolve the behavior issues.

Please note that every effort is made to help the child and the family work through behavioral difficulties. If a teacher and the principal determine that a child's behavior is disruptive or distracting to the learning environment, it may indicate that a student is not ready for a classroom situation.



Health

Physical & Immunization Records

Current records of physical exams and immunizations must be turned into the classroom, no later than the first day of school. If the forms expire before the last day of school, you will need to provide a current form in order to continue attending uninterrupted. Also, we will need a copy of your child's birth certificate for their file.

Contact Information

Please keep us up to date with current addresses and phone numbers in case we need to reach you in an emergency. We require 2 contacts other than parents.

Wellness

We strive to keep all children in our school as healthy as possible. If your child exhibits any of the following symptoms, we will contact you to pick up your child as soon as possible.

- Severe or constant cough
- Excessive sinus discharge
- Conjunctivitis, "Pink eye"
- Exposed, open skin sore
- The presence of any mucous, drainage, blood, or any other substance
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Diarrhea or vomiting within the last 24 hours
- Head Lice
- Fever within last 24 hours

- Any other distress or symptom of illness that requires parental management-

We do not want your child to be exposed to any more illnesses than necessary, and every effort will be made to remove sick children from the classroom while awaiting pickup.

Occasionally a child will have a potty accident. If it becomes a regular occurrence, a parent- teacher conference will be required to determine what procedures are needed to keep the classroom a healthy environment for children.



Items from Home

Toys

Toys from home are **not** permitted at preschool, with the exceptions of Show & Share and the alphabet briefcase.

Your child's teacher will send something home to let you know when it's your child's turn.

Rest Time Items

If your child stays for rest time, please send in a rest mat and a standard size pillow case to store it in. You may also send in any the following:

- crib sheet
- small travel sized pillow
- small blanket or beach towel
- soft stuffed animal (1)



Snack & Lunch

Snack

Each family is responsible for providing their child's morning snack. Please place the snack (and a drink if desired) in a ziplock bag marked with your child's name. Be sure to include an ice pack, straw, spoon and napkin as needed. We request that snacks be healthy foods.

Snack Suggestions:

- A box of raisins or other dried fruits
- An individual fruit cup
- Applesauce
- Apple slices sprinkled with cinnamon
- Cheese and crackers

We will have a snack basket where the children can put their snacks each morning. All children will need to bring a water bottle everyday.

Lunch

If your child stays for lunch, please send a lunch box complete with food, icepack, drink, straw, napkins and utensils. **No microwaving or refrigeration is available.**

Preschoolers need to eat a variety of different types of food daily. If your child is here at school all day, they will work up quite an appetite. Please pack their age.....If they are 4, pack at least four items, etc. **No candy or soda please!**



Conferences, Communication & Curriculum

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be sent home throughout the year. These evaluations are designed to help the teacher determine kindergarten readiness and areas where intervention services may be needed.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences are held each fall for all students. Teachers or parents may request additional conferences as the year progresses.

Communication

If you need to give the teachers any information concerning your child, drop off and pick up times are great for brief communication. For a more detailed, uninterrupted conversation, please schedule a time to meet with the teacher.

Curriculum

We offer a creative theme-based curriculum that supports the various learning styles of young children. Our goal is to encourage independent problem solving and to ignite a lifelong desire to learn and discover.

Bible Themes

The Bible Teaches Me

1. The Bible teaches me that I am special.
2. The Bible teaches me to trust God.
3. The Bible teaches me to do what is right.
4. The Bible teaches me to be brave.
5. The Bible teaches me to pray.
6. The Bible teaches me to obey God.
7. The Bible teaches me to love.
8. The Bible teaches me to be happy.
9. The Bible teaches me to share.



Questions - please contact:
Lori Wilson, Preschool Director
lwilson@bcspanthers.org

Tips for the Happiest Drop-off



1. Have your child walk into school
2. Remind your child: "School is for kids, I'll be back soon."
3. ONE kiss now, 100 later
4. ONE hug now, 100 later
5. Go quickly!

Always keep in mind: You have chosen a wonderful, safe and happy place for your child. Share with them your confidence that they'll have fun.

Their attitude is determined by yours.

Notes

BRADENTON CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

www.bcspanthers.org

Main Campus:
3304 43rd Street West
Bradenton, FL 34209
941-792-5454

Preschool Campus:
1305 43rd Street West
Bradenton, FL 34209
941-404-4491