

MILE HIGH ACADEMY

Policy and Procedure Handbook

Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool

Last Revision 12/13/2021

Our Mission

(CO 7.702.41 A)

is to provide a quality Christ-centered education that empowers young people to excel. Our vision is that the Mile High Academy (MHA) Childcare/Preschool be recognized for its excellence, renowned for its Christ-centered learning environment where every student and faculty member develops a personal relationship with Christ and embraces an enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

Ages of Students**(CO 7.702.41 B)**

The Mile High Childcare is licensed by the State of Colorado, Department of Human Services, and Division of Child Care for a total of 20 children, ages 3 through 6.

Hours of Operation**(CO 7.702.41 D)**

The hours of operation are from 7:15 am to 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Fridays will have adjusted closing hours based on sundown and communicated at the start of the year. MHA will follow the school calendar for all holidays and days off. Emails will be sent as a reminder for days off and half days.

Admission, Registration and Withdrawal of Children**(CO 7.702.41 C, F & Z)**

Please contact Mile High Academy at 303-744-1069 or go to our website www.milehighacademy.org to enroll your child.

Withdrawal policy requires two-week written notice prior to the last day of attendance. Tuition will be charged for the entire month a child is in attendance.

The acceptance of children with severe physical, mental, or emotional handicaps will be reviewed on an individual basis.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law enacted in 1990 that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public accommodations and state and local government operations and services. Under the ADA, anyone who has a physical or mental impairment substantially limiting one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such impairment is considered a person with a disability.

Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool will also ensure that there is no discrimination against a qualified individual with a disability in the programs, services or activities it provides. Mile High Academy Childcare is committed to accommodating the known disabilities of its students. The ADA requires that the Mile High's programs, services and activities be accessible to persons with disabilities.

Fee Schedule**(CO 7.702.41 G)**

Please see www.milehighacademy.org for most updated tuition fees.

Makeup Day Policy

If your child misses a day scheduled, another non-scheduled day can be substituted to make up for the day missed with the following guidelines:

- Makeup days are on a first-come, first-serve basis and only when there is room on the requested day.
- Scheduled closings for school holidays or unscheduled snow days do not qualify for make-up days or credit.

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- Makeup days are NOT guaranteed.
- Please note that we do not offer tuition reduction for days missed that cannot be made up.
- The day should be made up within one month from the date of the absence.
- Please coordinate with the preschool staff to schedule the makeup day preferably one week in advance if possible.

Authorized Release of Students

(CO 7.702.41 A, O & P)

All parents are expected to pick up their students within the hours of operation. If a student is still at the preschool after 3:15 p.m., the teacher will sign them in at the after-school care class and the parents will be responsible for payment to that program. No student will be released to a person not authorized by the parent. Written or verbal authorization is required. Anyone authorized to pick up a student for a parent will be asked to sign first and last name to the sign-out sheet and will be asked for picture identification.

If your student is not picked up by closing time, every effort will be made to contact the parent or individuals on the Emergency Contact List. If no one has been located within two hours after closing, the authorities will be notified. An emergency contact person must be on file to pick up a student if her/his parents cannot be located.

Location of Students

(CO 7.702.41 H)

Periodically during the day, the teacher takes a head count of the students and compares it to the sign in sheet to verify that all children are present. In the event of a lost student:

- 1) notification of staff and parents at school immediately
- 2) staff will notify police
- 3) re-search the school building

Visitors to the Center

(CO 7.702.41 V)

Visitors to the childcare/preschool must state their purpose as well as sign in and out before and after their visit.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

(CO 7.702.41 W)

Good communication is necessary for the success of our students. Please feel free to express any concerns you may have regarding your child with the teacher. This may include conferences regarding progress, behavior, and social or physical needs.

Parent teacher conferences are scheduled throughout the school year. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled in the school calendar and notices are sent. Parents are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the teachers.

Lesson Plans & Daily Schedule

Lesson plans, daily schedule and newsletters are posted online as well as on the parent board inside of the classroom. We also send newsletters home in every child's folder. This enables families to be aware and involved in the learning process occurring in the classroom.

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Adjustment Period/Transitions

Beginning school is an exciting experience for a young child, but it can be initially difficult. Whatever the personality of your child, however eager he/she may seem, there will be a moment when they suddenly realize that their parent is not going to be with them.

Families, too, often feel anxious about the separation. These feelings of apprehension are normal. If your child is having difficulty, please say good-bye quickly and unhesitatingly, without looking back. Children seldom continue to cry for more than a few minutes after the parent is out of sight. After a short period of time, the daily routine should dispel all fears. You may contact the office or teacher to check on your child during the day for extra reassurance.

Leaving Transition

If a child has to leave our program, it is important to the child that we say goodbyes and ensure that the child takes all of their belongings.

Field Trips **(CO 7.702.41 L, M, N & Q)**

While attending field trips, students are transported via the school bus, unless other arrangements have been made. Emergency consent to treat forms are with the teacher at all times.

If a child arrives at the school after the class has left for a fieldtrip, instructions and directions to the location of the field trip will be left in the office. The parent then would decide if they would come to the event or leave the child in the care of the office.

Emergency Situations **(CO 7.702.41 K)**

Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool has fire, tornado, lockdown, lockout, shelter in place drills quarterly. Each drill places students in a safe location in the event of an actual emergency. If a fire was to take place on campus, we would direct the children to the soccer field or Connections Church, whichever is safest. If a tornado were to occur, we would take shelter downstairs in the room designated for shelter. In either situation, every effort will be made to make parents aware once all children are out of harm's way. Periodic lockout, lockdown, and shelter in place drills may also take place during the school year.

Emergency Treatment **(CO 7.702.41 K)**

In the event of an accident causing a serious injury, every effort will be made to notify the parents immediately. Emergency medical treatment will be given when all efforts to reach the parent or guardian have failed or if the situation requires immediate medical care. A form for treatment must be on file. This will be used only in cases of emergency when the child's parents cannot be contacted.

Illness Policy **(CO 7.702.41 J)**

To minimize the spread of illness, children will not be permitted to attend school when there is evidence of an elevated temperature, vomiting, diarrhea, or other signs of illness. **Students**

must remain at home until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without medication. Students must also remain at home for 24 hours following any last episode of diarrhea or vomiting. When the school has determined that a child is ill, the parents will be contacted. The ill child must be picked up within an hour.

COVID-19: Regardless of where we stand on this issue it is important that we acknowledge the very real issue of the fact that this is a serious illness. As long as we continue to work together, we can continue to move forward as a school and community. Making decisions for a community is inherently different from making decisions for an individual family. Our students are so important to us and it is important that we think and act proactively when their wellbeing is threatened. We thank you for your support and continued prayers. Our hope is that our students will be able to experience an amazing school year, blessed with optimal physical, academic, and emotional health.

By sending your child to MHA, parents recognize and accept this risk.

All policies and procedures in this handbook may differ from that listed below depending on policies and structures surrounding COVID-19.

To access the MHA Back to School Plan, please click [here](#). Please understand that this plan will be modified and updated throughout the school year. The information listed in the reopen plan supersedes any information listed below that conflict with one another.

Medication **(CO 7.702.41 R)**

It is recommended that medications be given at home. If medication needs to be given while your student is attending school, there are certain forms that must be completed by you and your primary care medical provider. All medications must be kept in their original container and will be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. Prescription medications need to have a pharmacy label. Certain staff will administer medications and have had state-approved training and delegation with an RN. This is compliance with the Delegatory Clause of the Nurse Practice Act. If your student has any special medical needs or allergies, please talk with the Director.

Please, personally give your child's medication and drugs to the teacher for proper storage.

Do Not Leave Medication in Back Packs, Lunch Boxes or Your Student's Cubby.

Spare Clothing **(CO 7.702.41 J & U)**

Since children the age of 3 are accepted, we expect them to be potty trained but are aware that accidents happen. We ask that the parents send an extra pair of clothes in the event that an accident does occur. The soiled clothes will be sealed in a plastic bag and put in the child's cubby or backpack.

Preschool Dress Code

All footwear must have closed toes. Jewelry is not to be worn. No belts please.

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Discipline Policy **(CO 7.702.41 I)**

Students will be given an initial warning for undesirable behavior. If the misbehavior continues, the child will be redirected to another area and will discuss the misbehavior with the teacher. If there is harm to another student, they will be removed from the situation and an accident report will be written up and a copy will be given to the parents of the child who has been injured. In the case that a certain behavior continues, a visit with the parents, the director and the principal will be set up to decide what the best action to take would be.

Meals and Snacks **(CO 7.702.41 T)**

Students will be provided with a snack each afternoon. Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool is an allergen aware facility. Every effort is made to keep all students safe. Please be sure to let us know if your child has allergies to foods, medications, insect bites or latex. If a child comes to school without a lunch, all efforts will be made to provide a meal. Every child must be able to self feed.

Student's Belongings **(CO 7.702.41 S)**

Student's personal belongings will be stored in the classroom in labeled cubbies. Please mark your child's belongings with their name. We request that toys not be brought to school. MHA cannot be responsible for any breakage or loss of toys brought to school. Toy weaponry of any kind will be confiscated and returned to parents. Students should not bring money to school. If they do, the teacher will place it in an envelope and leave it in the student's container for parents.

Television, DVD Viewing, and iPads **(CO 7.702.41 M)**

The television, iPads and DVD player can be used creatively by the teacher in the classroom. By offering another medium for education, the teacher can complement and reinforce the classroom experience.

Weather **(CO 7.702.41 E)**

In the event that it is too cold or hot outside, the children may play inside the gym or do activities in the classroom.

Code of Conduct **(3.2)**

The staff at Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool follow the code of conduct of the National Association for the Education for Young Children (NAEYC). Annual training for staff working in the MHA childcare is given.

Communication

A weekly newsletter is added to your child's folder each week with the weeks information/communication, as well as updates on the MHA Preschool Facebook page. Preschool Staff is available to answer any questions you may have at drop off or pick up times.

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Cleaning and Sanitizing of Classroom

The classroom is cleaned and sanitized throughout the day with the CDC approved sanitizers and disinfectants. Handwashing is an important part of staying healthy, so staff and children will be practicing handwashing methods with soap and water for 20 seconds. Staff will be supervising the children so that this is done appropriately.

Interpreters in the classroom

(2.1)

The teacher is bilingual in Spanish.

Reporting of Child Abuse

(CO 7.702.41 Y)

As a parent of child/children in licensed childcare, you may report any suspected abuse by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 720-944-3000.

Mile High Childcare is required by law, Social Services Regulation 7.701.53, to file a report with the county department of social services or local law enforcement agency when there is reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect, or the child has been observed being subjected to circumstances or conditions which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect. Such a report is required to be filed immediately.

Complaints

(CO 7.702.41 X)

All inquiries or concerns about the care of your child should be brought to the attention of the child's teacher, director, and then the principal. Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool is licensed by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care, 1575 Sherman Street, Denver CO 80203-1714, telephone number 303-866-5958.

Financial Agreement

Parents who enroll their child in Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool have entered into a contractual agreement and are expected to keep their account current. Monthly balances must be paid no later than the due date or the student may be asked to withdraw until account is current.

Parents are expected to read and be in compliance with the operating procedures in this handbook and the supplemental notes and newsletters sent.

Your suggestion and comments are welcome.

By enrolling my child in the Mile High Academy Childcare/Preschool I have accepted the terms of this handbook.