

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church

Child Protection and Nursery Policies For Outside* Groups

Purpose of Policy

Believing that children are our sacred trust from a loving God, we should joyfully answer the call to provide a nurturing Christian environment that will encourage our children's faith. To that end, St. Elmo Presbyterian Church (SEPC) and its members are committed to the safety, welfare, and protection of all children, youth, and volunteers participating in the programs and activities of the church.

- Do not let yourself be alone in a room with a child. Always make sure there are two adults present at any time. If that is impossible for any reason, stay in an open area, or a room with a window or door view glass. Doors and windows need to be open or clear at all times.
- Hugs, a pat on the back, diaper changing/helping a small child in the restroom are appropriate in a caring community. *Make sure the door is open; never close it if you are helping them!* If possible, use the *diaper changing station in the bathroom, with the door open.* Expressions of affection should not be excessive or imposed on anyone.
- Always make sure your conversations and language are appropriate. Do not use any sexual language, personal intimacies, or crude language.
- Play games and have fun! Make sure they are safe and appropriate for the children involved.
- Absolutely NO corporal punishment is to be used, (not a pop on the bottom or tap on the hand, or anything else).
- If needed, a first-aid kit is provided in the Infant Room above the sink.
- Wash your hands often, to avoid the spread of germs.

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Nursery Toys

Nursery Toys are for children three years old and younger. Please refrain from letting older children/teens ride on, sit on, stand on, any of the toys. We want the toys to last, and to keep the toys clean, safe, and usable for any nursery age children. Please find the forms to report broken toys/objects in the nursery, on the tall shelf outside the nursery bathroom.

We thank you for your help with this.

***Outside group: non-members who have requested to use the building one or more times**

As the leader/contact person for our group, I, _____(print) of
(group) _____ have read the Nursery and Child
Protection Policies of St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and we agree to abide by them during our time
here. _____ (Signature)