

LITTLE ESKOMO LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Child Care Plan:

St. Matthews Little Eskomo Lutheran Preschool is a Christian-based preschool licensed to serve up to 20 children at a time. The school serves potty-trained children between 3-5 years of age. We are in session Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 to 11:45, and Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30-11:45. We have before care and after care. Before care starts at 7:45am. The aftercare will go to 4:30pm. Children are properly supervised at all times. We follow the Esko school schedule in regard to scheduled breaks except when Esko has a scheduled late start or early dismissal. On those days we will hold class as usual.

In keeping with the Mission of St. Matthews Lutheran Church, it is our desire to provide a Christ-centered preschool experience in which we assist families in bringing up their children tenderly in the training, discipline and counsel of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4). Our staff, with the support of St. Matthews Congregation, strives to encourage children to:

- *recognize that they are children of God and have a best friend in their Savior, Jesus Christ
- *have a positive self-concept
- *be physically healthy and coordinated
- *expand their understanding of the world
- *use language to communicate with others
- *express themselves in art, music and dramatic play
- *be curious and want to learn
- *be independent

In order to help children, achieve these goals St. Matthews Little Eskomo Lutheran Preschool's schedule allows time for teacher-directed activities as well as child-initiated activities. Through the use of music, games, stories, dramatic play, small motor manipulatives, large motor equipment, field trips, special visitors and individual and small group activities, we help children increase their physical, emotional, cognitive and social well-being. Equipment and activities include, but are not limited to: dramatic play area where children pretend to cook, parent, work in one of a variety of occupations or other imaginative play; blocks, cars, puzzles; hopscotch, running, hopping, dancing etc; books read by an adult or on their own; craft activities, either teacher-directed or child-initiated, including painting, cutting, gluing, coloring and playdough; and snack.

The daily schedule includes a short group time which includes counting the calendar, discussing the weather, assigning daily helpers, and general discussion. The daily schedule also allows time for free choice play which includes both large and small motor activities, imaginative play and books and craft supplies. Music, snack, teacher-directed art project, bathroom breaks and story time are also built into the daily schedule. Pastor led chapel time is once a week. A daily schedule is posted in the classroom for families to see.

A form showing the intellectual, physical, social and emotional progress of each child is kept in the child's folder and used twice a year at teacher/family conferences.