

First Baptist Church Morganton

Child Protection Program Highlights

Purpose

As a church, we believe that the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of children is vital. Our **Child Protection Program** policy is designed to reduce the risk of abuse or injury to the preschoolers, children, and youth under 18 years of age, who participate in our programs and activities.

Activities Covered by this Program

Activities covered by the policies of the **Child Protection Program** include, but are not limited to:

Nursery	Sunday School	Youth Ministry	Children's Choir
Youth Choir	Children's Handbells/Chimes	Youth Handbells	Mission Groups
Special Events (Jubilate Music Camp, Vacation Bible School, retreats, practice and set-up for special events)			

Ministry Leader Responsibilities

- Adhere to the established policies and procedures when implementing any programs, including, but not limited to:
 - Maintaining at least two workers for every activity
 - Supervising all activities and workers

Ministry Volunteer Workers Responsibilities

- Adhere to the established policies and procedures, including, but not limited to:
 - Maintaining a high standard of conduct at all times
 - Using appropriate methods of discipline
 - Maintaining visual supervision of children at all times
 - Ensuring that the area(s) of the facility being used for an activity are safe
 - Accompanying children fifth grade and younger to the restroom and to other locations in the facility
 - Keeping children fifth grade and younger at the activity site until picked up by a parent or designated adult
- Provide required background information and be interviewed for a volunteer ministry position
- Participate in training

Parent Responsibilities

- Complete appropriate forms providing emergency contact information and medical needs related to the child
- Accompany children fifth grade and younger to the activity site
- Promptly pick up children fifth grade and younger when the activity is scheduled to end
- Supervise children when they are not in a scheduled activity
- Support the church, ministry leaders, and volunteer ministry workers in the implementation of this program

Child Protection Coordinator Responsibilities

- Assist with the implementation of policies and procedures
- Conduct background checks and interviews with all potential volunteer workers
- Determine suitability for work with preschoolers, children, and youth
- Maintain appropriate confidential files
- Assist with training of volunteer workers

Child Protection Committee Responsibilities

- Formulate policy and procedures and any needed modifications
- Provide oversight of the implementation of this program and the Child Protection Coordinator
- Conduct training
- Maintain communication with church ministers, church staff, and church congregation
- Ensure investigation of any reports of wrong-doing or concern