

Hills View Evangelical Free Church – Children’s Ministry Policy– Oct. 14, 2017

Introduction and Purpose

Children are very important in the eyes of God. In the New Testament, the church is called to minister to and love its children, as demonstrated in Jesus’ teaching in the book of Mark:

“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”

Mark 9:36-37

At Hills View EFC, we strive to follow Jesus’ example, and welcome children with love and tenderness. We want all children to feel safe, secure and comfortable while in our care, and strive to help all children build friendships and experience joy during their time with us.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure an atmosphere that is not only enjoyable for children and reassuring for the parents/guardians, but also encourages the beginning of a lifelong, sustainable relationship with God and Jesus Christ. This relationship begins with a positive church experience through the children ministry volunteers, and will provide the foundation of lifelong faith.

Scope

Hills View Church’s Children’s Ministry offers activities and children’s instruction during church worship services held on Sunday mornings through the Nursery & Kids Bible Time.

Policies

1. Children’s Ministry Volunteers will be provided following the two person rule.
 - a. A minimum of two volunteers must be in attendance at all times.
 - b. One of those two must be an adult and the other must be at least a youth over the age of 14.
 - c. All potential volunteers shall agree to:
 - Complete a volunteer information form.
 - Authorize Hills View EFC to do a criminal record search & a statewide sexual offender search.
 - Read and comply with the Hills View Abuse Prevention, Safety, and Discipline Guidelines
2. Parents taking care of their own children are not considered volunteers and are exempt unless they make it a routine to take care of other children.
3. Parents of children must remain on the church campus at all times unless prior arrangements have been made with the volunteer.
4. Hills View will not provide care for children who are ill with symptoms such as the following: A fever of 100.00 or more, a rash, vomiting in the past 24 hours, earache, diarrhea, advanced cold/flu symptoms, eye discharge, pink eye, and/or head lice.
5. Parents are responsible for their children at all times when at or on Church property.
6. The Volunteer Coordinator may establish guidelines to their particular area of ministry. These guidelines are subject to Elder approval and shall not be contrary to Hills View Church Policies.