

Detroit Waldorf School

Parent-Child Program Guidelines

Welcome to the Detroit Waldorf School Parent-Child Program! We are so happy you joined us! In the Waldorf tradition, we endeavor to create a warm, calm, nurturing environment in which you and your child may spend sustained, quality and loving time together.

Classes Offered: We offer the:

- Duckling Class for children 6 months - pre-walking,
- Bunny Class for children walking - 27 months (walking - 2^{1/4} yrs), and
- Blossom Class for children 28 - 42 months (2^{1/4} - 3^{1/2} yrs).

These different classes offer a natural progression through developmental stages within a wide age range. Our Parent-Child classes support and encourage your child's developing physical, emotional, social and cognitive skills. They also support the parent in opportunities for continued bonding with your child, to form new friendships, and to bring your parenting issues.

Arrival: On the first day, when you arrive at school, please park on Burns St., (please do not park on Charlevoix) and enter the building through the **main entrance**, as all other doors will be locked. Then enter and go down the stairs to the main office and you will be escorted to our classroom. Thereafter, when you arrive, please come straight to our room! Welcome!!

Those using strollers or wagons should use the ramp up to the terrace and park them next to the benches overlooking the sandbox (you'll see them). The ramp is located inside the Early Childhood Center playground around to the right of the terrace stairs. Please do not carry strollers or wagons up or down the stairs.

Shoes and Clothing: Please **bring "inside shoes"** or slippers for both you and your child. Outside shoes and gear are placed in a designated area outside the room.

Toys/Personal Belongings: Toys, stuffed animals, dolls and "loveys" are best kept at home, as they may get lost, broken and cause sad hearts when other children wish they had theirs, too.

Cell Phones and Devices: Please **no cell-phones or devices**. Detroit Waldorf School is a device-free campus, including the playgrounds. Please silence and deposit phones in the basket upon entering the classroom and pick them up on your way out. Meanwhile, in case of emergency, they will be right there.

Allergies & Fragrances: We are a **peanut-free and fragrance-free school and campus**. Exposure to peanuts can cause severe symptoms and can be life threatening. Exposure to certain perfumes, colognes, fragranced soaps and lotions, etc., can trigger adverse reactions. Let's not risk anything!

Photos/Videos: All parents of students in DWS sign a Media Release, which allows the occasional photographing or recording of various school or classroom activities, and is done by administration or a professional photographer. This is for promotion and marketing purposes only. DWS policy prohibits parents/caregivers from taking photos and/or video recordings of their children, or other children, on school campus.

If you are running late: Please come anyway! It is important that you and your child attend as much of the class as possible, as we aim to optimize your child's experience and development. However, if you cannot attend a class, please let Mrs. Eberhard know as soon as you can (for planning and preparation). Call/text call directly at (586) 747-6126. However, if your child is sick, please keep them home. Please notify Mrs. Eberhard if you will miss a class, if you can (for planning and preparation). We will miss you!

Playground: We love our playground! We know our children want to play on the playground as much as they can, and we want them to, too! However, we are not a public facility, and for several reasons (other class use, State licensing restrictions, and liability potential, etc.), our Parent-Child families must not use our playground(s) before class begins, or after class ends. Because of this restriction, and our firm belief that children should be outside as much as possible, I make every effort to include outside playtime in each class.

Please note that the State licensing authority has mandated that children under 3 years old may not play on our playscape's bridge. They may, however, use the slide with parent supervision.

Also, **please be sure your child is dressed for the weather**, as we play outside in all types of weather (as long as it's not extreme!).

Discipline and Settling Conflicts: Parents must be aware of their child at all times, and are fully responsible for their safety and discipline.

Handouts and Information: We may give out articles on child development or parenting topics. We will (try to) have a short discussion on the topic the following week during snack time. If there is a specific topic you would like to address, please let us know.

Parenting Discussion Hour: The Blossom Class offers an adult-only, one-hour parenting discussion, while the children play on the playground under the supervision of our Parent-Child Program assistant.

Many families in our Parent-Child Programs go on to apply for our Early Childhood Program. We have three- and five-day programs, half- or full-day. If at any time you feel any of these may be a fit for your family, please promptly ask about admissions deadlines, as classes sometimes fill up early. More information about the Detroit Waldorf School and the Early Childhood Programs is available at www.detroitwaldorf.org or call the school at (313) 822-0300.

Thank you for your participation in this wonderful program. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We love our work and deeply appreciate families who come to our Parent-Child classes! We look forward to spending many sweet, joyful moments with you and your little one!

Warmly,

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