



Nursery Guidelines For Parents

**Silverdale Lutheran Church
11701 Ridgepoint Drive NW
Silverdale, WA 98383
(360) 698-7414**

Welcome to our Nursery!

We welcome you and your children to our church. It is the goal of Silverdale Lutheran Church to provide a safe, comfortable, and nurturing environment for your child. We also want you to feel secure about your child's well being while you attend services and activities at SLC. We feel that we accomplish this goal in two ways.

- We provide you, the parent, with the information you need to know about our nursery program: how it is run, the rules that we have crafted to ensure a safe environment, and contact information you may use to have your questions answered.
- We provide your child with an environment that is safe for them. Your child is safe to explore the room - it is properly childproofed. The room will also be properly staffed to ensure that there is always enough individual attention paid to your son or daughter. We also have two separate rooms which are safe for appropriate age groups.

Please take the time to read the following guidelines that we have prepared for you. This short booklet will answer most of your questions as well as introduce you to the policies that we have put in place to safe guard all of the children we care for. Your understanding and cooperation are deeply appreciated.

Thank you!

Jessica Voigt

Nursery Coordinator

Silverdale Lutheran Church

This is a quick rundown of the policies that we have adopted to provide a safe environment for your children. Each entry in the Quick List will have a more detailed explanation in the sections following.

Quick List!

1. Children up to the age five are accepted for care in the nursery.
2. Children above nursery age are not allowed in the nursery.
3. The nursery is regularly available for the Sunday services. SLC may also provide nursery care for other special occasions. Announcements of those occasions will note the availability of care. Please refer to the monthly calendar sent home with your child. This will show which activities provide childcare.
4. Nursery staff will not accept children that are currently ill, or have been ill within the last 24 hours.
5. Nursery staff will not give medication to children.
6. Parents are required to sign our attendance form when dropping off and picking up their children. There must be a child info sheet on file.
7. There will always be a minimum of two nursery workers present.
8. Essentials bags (diapers, clothing, etc.) need to be placed in a cubby and preferably labeled.
9. Children will only be released to the parent who has dropped them off, unless a prior arrangement with an authorized adult has been set.

Age of Care

Infants up to and including age four are accepted for care in the nursery. Sunday school is available for those five years of age and older. We also encourage introducing your child to the Worship Service as early as possible. Silverdale

Lutheran Church takes pride in accepting families to Worship! There are "busy bags" located on a wooden rack in the Narthex to spark interest in your child during Worship. You may also use the transitional room located on the opposite side of the sanctuary. It is fully equipped with toys, books, seating, speakers, and a window to enjoy the service.

Safety

For safety reasons, we do not allow children above nursery age to enter the nursery rooms at any time. If you see older children in the nursery at any time, please ask them to leave or notify appropriate SLC staff. Older children do not always understand the care and maintenance of a room for small children and infants. They can leave small objects that could be choking hazards, unplug safety devices, etc.

Nursery Availability

The nursery will begin accepting children 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the service. Please pick up your children as soon as the service concludes. The nursery attendants have other responsibilities once the service ends.

Child Illness

If your child becomes ill or injured during the service, one of the nursery staff will send you a text message requesting your presence. For the health and safety of all children, nursery staff, and the peace of mind of our children's parents, children that have had the following symptoms within the last 24 hours will not be accepted:

- a. Fever
- b. Diarrhea
- c. Vomiting

- d. Yeast Infection, manila, thrush
- e. Impetigo (infected wounds), boils, untreated ringworms
- f. Runny nose with green or yellow mucus discharge
- g. Communicable eye infections, conjunctivitis (pink-eye)
- h. Contagious skin rash
- i. Cough, croup (except in the case of allergy)
- j. Any symptom of usual childhood disease such as mumps, measles, chicken pox
- k. Use of antibiotics for 24 hours or less.

Medication

Our nursery staff is not adequately trained to dispense any type of medication. If your child requires medication, please come to the nursery at the appropriate time to administer it.

Drop Off and Pick Up

There will be a child sign-in sheet at the front of the nursery. Please make sure you fill this out. In addition to you and your child's name, be sure to have a child information sheet on file so we are aware of any allergies and special requests.

Nursery staff requests that only one parent drop off or pick up the child. This will help keep the area clear and avoid congestion and/or confusion.

It is common for children in the nursery to suffer from separation anxiety. Please tell your child "good-bye" when leaving him or her in our care and exit the nursery. It is common for children to cry when you leave. Normally, the children will calm

down in just a few minutes. If your child continues to be upset for 10 minutes (or sooner by parent's request) with no sign of calming down, a nursery staff member will text message you.

Please feel free to peek in on your child during the service! We do ask that you try to not be noticed by the children when you do so as it may cause them to become upset when you don't come in to play with them. Some of the children see parents and cry because they do not see theirs. Please be respectful of this so your peers can worship as well.

Feeding

Food allergies are one of our top concerns. If your child has food allergies, please note their child info sheet. For the safety of your child, we also ask that you specifically tell one of the nursery staff that your child has food allergies so that all nursery staff will be aware.

We offer a snack to the children that consists of goldfish crackers, animal crackers, cheerios, or kix. We will only serve water unless a sippy cup of something else is provided. It is important that you fill out the child information sheet appropriately so we know if your child can have a snack.

We will not offer any other feedings unless your child takes a bottle.

Nursery Staffing

The goal of the Silverdale Lutheran Church Nursery is to offer quality care for your child. We will always have a minimum of two nursery workers on duty.

Parents: If you are not a volunteer in the nursery, please exit quickly once your

child has been properly checked in. Too many big feet can leave too little room for little feet. This is also important to set a standard for anyone who wishes to enter. We prefer less traffic in the nursery to promote a healthy and safe environment for the children. If you wish to stay with your child, please bring them to the transitional room (library) located on the other side of the sanctuary.

Essentials Bags

Essentials bags (diapers, clothing, etc.) should be clearly labeled with the name of the parent or child. If you have any special items that your child may need, please point them out to the nursery staff. Please place essentials bags in a separate cubby.

Your essentials bag may need to contain the following items:

- a. All items required for a change (diaper, creams, ointments, salves, wipes, etc.)
- b. Extra diaper(s)
- c. Bottle or cup as needed
- d. Pacifier (clip on type is preferred) or other item your child may find comforting.
- e. Change of clothes.

Please do not bring toys, books, candy, gum or other personal items. Nursery staff will not give any of these items to your child if they are in the essentials bag.

Comments, Questions and Concerns

Please feel free to contact any of the people on the following page to address any

and all comments, questions and/or concerns you may have regarding the Silverdale Lutheran Church Nursery program. We welcome your input and are happy to have the chance to address any concerns or answer any questions you may have.

Contact Information

Silverdale Lutheran Church

11701 Ridgepoint Drive NW

Silverdale, WA 98383

(360) 698-7414

Pastoral Staff: Pastor Bill Crabtree

Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard

Pastor Paula Lund Burchill

Nursery Coordinator: Jessica Voigt

Voigtswifey@gmail.com

239-410-3243

Signature Sheet

Nursery Copy

I have read, understand and accept the guidelines set forth by Silverdale Lutheran Church.

I agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in this booklet.

I realize that the nursery staff on duty is there for all of the children entrusted to their care. Nursery care staff has the authority to interpret and implement the guidelines. I understand that any concerns or disagreements that I have may be brought to the attention of Silverdale Lutheran Church and/or the Nursery Coordinator and that my concerns will be heard and responded to.

Parent Signature: _____

Nursery Staff Signature: _____

Date: _____

May your child be photographed for SLC publications and bulletin boards?