

First Presbyterian Church Child Development Center

CHILD ASSESSMENT POLICY

It is the policy of this program to assess all children soon after they enter our program, and right before moving to the next level within our program. We do this to determine where children are socially/emotionally, physically, and cognitively at the time of their arrival, so we can plan the most developmentally appropriate curriculum around their interests and needs. It also enables us to determine growth patterns, or address red flags in a timely manner. We feel children learn best in this individually measured environment. We know also that early intervention is the key to a child reaching his/her maximum performance/potential.

Assessments may be informal (daily sheets, anecdotal notes, developmental checklists) or formal, medical examinations we require on/before the child begins, and Speech/Hearing/Language screenings of all preschoolers done each fall. Formal conferences take place in the fall, and spring.

We will share any concerns about a child's development with the parents in an appropriate manner in a proper forum. Parents must initiate the seeking of additional information/evaluation. A list of resources/specialist is provided to the parents upon request. In most cases a child's regular pediatrician can address issues and offer reassurance. After conferring with the parent's we will continue to closely observe the features/behaviors that warranted out initial contact, and if asked, keep the parents informed of progress/stability/regression.

We will work cooperatively with all those involved in the life and care of those children entrusted to our care. If deemed necessary, we will schedule a second conference, if no improvement is detected within a specified period of time.

Examples of the assorted assessment tools we use are contained in the individual classroom "Welcome Packets" parents receive at the time their children are enrolled. IF parents have any concerns about the tools we use, the purpose of assessments, or what we do with assessment results please feel free to discuss your concerns with the classroom teacher or the program administrators.

Finally, be assures that all information gained from assessing your child is kept confidential, and will only be used in the best interest of your child's early childhood education, with your permission.

Name of Child _____ Class _____

I understand, accept and support the assessment practices of this center.

Name of Parent(s) _____ Date _____

I **do not** understand the need for assessment and want further information and/or **do not** give permission for my child to be assessed.

Name of Parent(s) _____ Date _____