

R-KIDS' RELAUNCH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES for Parents

**All of these plans will be adjusted as our church responds to the current status of COVID-19.*

In summary, below are the steps for families ready to return to R-Kids:

Wednesday-Saturday

RSVP for your child to attend his/her classroom/group through the Sign-up Genius link sent to your email on Wednesdays.

- For school-age children, this will be based on the child's grade for this fall, so in most cases, that means a NEW grade.
- If your child is in the preschool range, [please click here](#) for a letter explaining the transition to the Preschool/Kindergarten Room.

Sunday morning

1. Talk to your child on the way to church. Ask questions that will invoke a warm, positive feeling for your child, like "What songs do you think you'll sing today?" or "Which friends do you think will be there?" Or, explain - again - what the new process is. Repetition is comforting for kids!
2. When you get to church, take your child to the table near the R-Kids entrance to have his temperature taken by one of our Safety Team. We will use a no-touch infrared forehead thermometer. He will receive a stamp on his hand saying that the temperature is below 100°F.
3. After getting temps taken, please have ONE parent take your child to her classroom, where the Small Group Leader will have her name tag and your parent security tag ready for you.
4. Give a smile and then head to "big church." Your child will be going to the sink to wash his hands right away!
5. After service, please have the same parent return to pick up your child.
6. On the way home, ask your child what her favorite part of church was today!

FAQs

Why are we planning to open R-Kids in August?

- We have done everything possible to plan for opening R-Kids at the most appropriate time for everyone involved, including children, families, ministry partners, and staff.
- Spiritual health is important, and many families want and need onsite children's ministry for their kids.
- At this time, August seems to be the most appropriate time to relaunch as it is around the time school will resume and families are establishing routines.
- We will likely open in two phases, with nursery and toddlers first, then elementary.
- School-age kids will attend the grade that reflects their fall 2020 enrollment at school.

What is the plan for cleaning and disinfection?

- We will be using a non-toxic disinfectant that is approved by the CDC for killing COVID-19. It is called [Sol-U-Guard](#) and is produced by Melaleuca.
- Each classroom/table area will be cleaned with Sol-U-Guard between services.
- All MPs will be trained on proper disinfection of surfaces.
- Toys and shareable items will be used only for one group at a time. A sanitized bin of toys, markers, etc. will be used for each group on Sundays. All items and surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized during the week.

What ratios will be used?

- There will be a maximum of 6 children in our Nurseries and Toddler classrooms, and a maximum of 8 children in our Elementary classrooms and table groups.
- We will maintain R-Kids' safety policies at all times, so there will also be two adults assigned to each classroom.

Will temperatures be taken?

- All MPs and kids will have their temperatures taken upon arrival.
- When the reading is below 100°F, a stamp will be placed on the child's hand to indicate that they have had their temperature checked. (The stamp will be washed off when they enter the classroom.)
- If a temperature above 100°F is present, the person will be asked to return to church when they are confident they are not ill or carrying a virus.
- If someone disputes the reading, we will take their temperature again up to 20 minutes after the initial reading.

Will face coverings be required?

- Face coverings will not be required of children.
- Face coverings will be required of all MPs.
- Face coverings are always acceptable for those who wish to wear them.
- If a child needs extra attention and a face covering is preventing proper care, the face covering may be removed until the child is consoled and/or the situation is resolved.
- Extra disposable masks/face shields and gloves will be available at all times.

How will we maintain a 6-foot distance from each other?

- In short, we cannot guarantee social distancing with children. We will take reasonable steps to distance children and adults from each other.
- We will mark the floors at 6-foot intervals at common waiting spaces, such as bathrooms, and near the entrances.
- For our Nursery, Toddler, Preschool, and Kindergarten classrooms, we will encourage “airplane arms” and other strategies for keeping distance, and we will provide activities that discourage sharing of items and space.
- In the Harnack Center, we will mark the floor at 6-foot intervals and do our best to encourage children to maintain that distance. We will provide activities that discourage sharing of items and space.
- In the 5th Grade Room, we will provide activities that discourage sharing of items and space and ask kids to stay two arms’ lengths away from each other.
- If a child needs extra attention, we will provide a hug, or band-aid, or whatever we would normally do to console the child. Once the child is consoled and/or the situation is resolved, social distancing will resume.
- Only one child will be allowed to enter the restroom at any time.

What procedural changes will take place?

Check-in/out

- We will ask families to RSVP so that we can print their tags before they arrive. Tags will be given to Small Group Leaders and available for families at the classroom door or at their tables (in the Harnack Center).
- For new families and walk-ins, there will be a manned check-in area so that a MP can enter their information and print their tags.
- As always, if we reach a maximum number of students in a room, the room will be closed. Families who arrive after that time will be encouraged to take their children into the worship service.
 - There will be a maximum of 6 children in our Nurseries and Toddler classrooms, and a maximum of 8 children in our Elementary classrooms and table groups.
- We will maintain R-Kids’ safety policies at all times, so there will also be two adults assigned to each classroom.
- We will request that only one parent enter the R-Kids’ areas to drop-off and pick-up the child, and we will monitor the hallway for congestion.
- All MPs and kids will have their temperatures taken upon arrival.
 - If a temperature above 100°F is present, the person will be asked to return to church when they are confident they are not ill or carrying a virus.
 - If someone disputes the reading, we will take their temperature again up to 20 minutes after the initial reading.

Cleaning

- All small toys and shareable items, such as markers, will be removed from the classrooms after each service.
- Non-removable toys and surfaces will be cleaned with Sol-U-Guard between services.
- Sanitized toys and shareable items will be brought in for each service.
- Whenever possible, we will use different rooms for each service. For example, the rooms we use first service will be closed after first service, and we will use a different room for second service.

Safety & Emergency

- ALL R-Kids safety policies and procedures remain in place, and any COVID-related measures that hinder our safety policies and procedures will be temporarily disregarded.

Lessons

- We will provide activities that discourage sharing of items and space.
- As always, we will focus on providing a safe environment and sharing the love of Christ with children and families. We trust our MPs to do the activities that will benefit the children and to disregard any that do not work in the best interest of the children in their care.
- The same video lesson that is made available to families worshipping online may also be played on the screens in the classrooms. This video includes worship music, a bible story, and more.
- In the elementary area, we will try to maintain a Small Group - Large Group - Small Group format as before.

Handwashing

- As always, frequent handwashing will be encouraged. Preference will be given to using soap and water, but hand sanitizer may also be used for children over 24 months of age.
- In addition, the following handwashing requirements will be in place.
 - Adults
 - upon entering and exiting the classroom
 - after toileting or changing a diaper
 - after contact with bodily fluids or cleaning up spills or objects contaminated with bodily fluids
 - after cleaning or sanitizing or using any chemical products
 - Children
 - upon entering and exiting the classroom
 - after toileting
 - when visibly soiled
 - after contact with bodily fluids
 - after using shared items, like markers