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## **Welcome to School Age/Homeschool (5yrs and Up)!**

We would like to welcome you and thank you for joining the TNT Family! We are excited for the opportunity to get to know your child and partner with you in their character development journey!

This welcome letter will give you an outline of what to expect in our School Age Classrooms. This includes what supplies we would like you to bring to ensure your child's transition to this room is as seamless as possible. This is a very busy, yet fun learning environment and we are looking forward to building a strong relationship with each child and can't wait to help them on their individual character development journey.

### **What to Bring for your Child to be Successful in School Age:**

- At least one change of clothes including socks
- Water bottle
- Rain Attire during Winter (Jackets, Boots, Hats, Bibs)
- Nut Free Lunch(Homeschool/Camp Days)
- Extra Snacks (optional but encouraged)
- Any supplies needed for specific enrichment activities
- Closed toed shoes

***Everything that you bring into the classroom must be labeled with your child's first and last name so we can be sure that your child's belongings get home to you. We do not guarantee safe return of any unlabeled items. We have many children with the same clothing. Please help us by making these labels easy to read and locate.***

***Please check lost and found for any missing items.***

***\*We have an ongoing fundraiser with Mabels Labels in order to provide our families quality labels and raise funds for our classrooms at the same time. If you are interested in using these labels please reach out to a member of our Admin Team.***



## **Brightwheel**

We pride ourselves on offering a very high level of communication between parents and teachers. By enrolling in our program, each family is committing to downloading and monitoring their child's Brightwheel account. Brightwheel is an all inclusive app that allows for parents and teachers to communicate instantly. It is the digital version of your child's daily report. Your digital feed will include updates on activities, food, skills learned, daily accomplishments, progress reports and so much more!

### **We use Brightwheel as our main communication tool with all families enrolled in any of TNT Kidz Center's programs.**

Additionally, all payments are processed through Brightwheel. Depending on your program, a monthly tuition will be added to your account in accordance with your signed tuition agreement. Statements will be sent 5 days before your tuition is due. Regardless of how you choose to pay your tuition, all charges and statements will be processed through Brightwheel. We ask that you enter in a payment method via Brightwheel regardless of your first choice payment method in the event that tuition is late.

By enrolling your child in our program you understand that 99.9% of all communication will be done through the Brightwheel App. At this time, this App allows us to offer the most personalized communication to each family for the size and scope of our programs. Brightwheel offers each family the opportunity to directly message any and all teachers your child interacts with daily including the Admin team. Any and all questions or concerns that cannot be answered at pick up/drop off should be directed through the App. Our team is constantly monitoring the messages we receive from all of our families and often responds in minutes during business hours.

### **Expectations for School Ageders**

Children enrolled in School Age classes are expected to meet the following developmental milestones in order for them to be successful and get the most out of the program.

#### **Students in this class have the ability to:**

- Cooperate and share
- Understand the concept of space
- Read age-appropriate books
- Understand commands that have 3 separate instructions
- Explain objects and their use



- Understand the concept of numbers
- Know their right and left hands
- Dress themselves and tie their own shoes
- Feed themselves and monitor their own hydration level.
- Use the restroom completely independently
- Use TNT's conflict management system(outlined in detail below)
- Show respect for teachers, students and parents at all times

### **Curriculum & Activities**

School Aged are given a wide variety of opportunities to grow in a safe and attentive atmosphere daily. Activities are designed to achieve the goals laid out in our mission statement. Our Mission is to TEACH our students through mental, emotional and physical self-discipline, how to positively TRANSFORM their character in all areas of their lives. TNT=Teach and Transform. We do this through teacher-led activities that push the children to be better teammates, leaders and community members daily. When conflict arises we use our conflict management system to help the children work through challenging emotions in a healthy and consistent way.

### **Homework Expectations**

School Aged are given dedicated quiet time to complete their homework at the beginning of every day. This is usually the first 30-45 minutes of each After School day. Students are expected to work diligently and stay focused during this time. After the allotted 30-45min of quiet time has passed, we must move on with the scheduled activities of the day. If students still need to work on their homework they are welcome to continue. However, the group will move on to other activities and quiet time will have concluded. Teachers are available to provide assistance with basic homework questions and assignments. **We do not provide 1 on 1 tutoring to our After School students.** Additionally, students are expected to honestly communicate what homework assignments they have each day. If parents would like to provide us with additional information regarding their child's homework schedule, we are happy to remind/help students complete their required assignments.

### **Appropriate Clothing**

Because children are naturally curious and children learn by exploring their environments through their senses, it is important to remember that they will get messy! Please be sure to dress your child in weather appropriate clothing that you do not mind getting dirty. Please always send your child with at least one extra pair of clothes.



## **Outdoor Play/Rain Attire**

**We are an all weather school!** There are many benefits to children playing outdoors. Please reference the accompanying article outlining the benefits of rainy day play. We do ask that all families provide rainy day attire so that their child is able to experience and benefit from these activities. We have several suggestions for rainy day clothing options and we would be happy to help point our families in the right direction. It is important for our families to understand that all of our classrooms participate in rainy day play. By enrolling your child in our program you understand that your child will be participating in rainy day play and it is the parents responsibility to provide the attire you would like your child to wear during these activities.

## **Injuries/Incident Reports**

This is an extremely active and high energy program. Injuries are going to happen. When an injury occurs, we do our best to report every injury to parents either via Brightwheel or a physical form. If there are any injuries that happen above the shoulders, we will call home as needed and write a physical Incident Report. Depending on the severity of other bodily injuries, we will call home when necessary. We will not call home for minor scrapes, cuts and bruises. We also try our best to update injuries on each child's Brightwheel profile. This usually includes a description and photo of the injury. On occasion, children have slipped or tripped and quickly continued playing without showing signs of discomfort or pain. If your child goes home with an injury that was not reported/documented, please let us know so we can document it and make sure it is handled appropriately.

## **TNT's Conflict Management System**

At TNT we use a 3 step approach that allows students the opportunity to handle conflict in a healthy and consistent way. The steps are outlined below.

**Step 1. Talk to the other student and kindly verbalize how you feel.** If this resolves the problem then students stop at Step 1 and return to play.

**Step 2. Ask a teacher for help by calmly relaying the details of the situation.** 99.9% of all problems are solved in a positive manner by utilizing Step 1 and 2. If the problem is still not resolved after Step 2, then proceed to Step 3.

**Step 3. Ask to speak to a member of the Admin Team (Emily, Kyle, Kaylin).**

When students use these steps it allows them to build confidence and gain independence while navigating communication challenges in a healthy way.



## **Parents Code of Conduct and Communication Requirements**

We greatly respect each of our families and their roles as parents to our students. We strongly believe it is each family's right and responsibility to choose what they believe is best for their children. Please understand that this encompasses a wide variety of beliefs and we do our best to provide an environment where each family is given the space and respect to make their choices. By choosing to enroll your child in our program, you understand that you are entering into a partnership with us and respect the role we have in your child's life. With this in mind, we pledge to speak and communicate to our families with **grace and understanding**. Likewise, we ask that our families also communicate to us with **grace and understanding**. We understand that certain situations surrounding your children can be frustrating. Please remember that we are on your team and only want the best for all of our students. **With this being said, it is completely unacceptable for parents/guardians to yell or curse at us or our team.** If this is occurring we will ask you to leave the center immediately and terminate the relationship. Please communicate any concerns to our team and us with grace and understanding. We are happy to work with our families to make sure each of our students are thriving. We are constantly making adjustments and improvements to our programs. We are not perfect and do not claim to be. We are our own biggest critics and are constantly looking for ways to improve and how to implement them.

## **Pick Up Schedule Confirmation Requirements**

We have always prided ourselves on being able to accommodate flexible schedules for After School students. However, we have recently found the need to add additional communication responsibilities for parents in order to help us ensure your child is picked up from school in a timely and consistent manner. **If your student is attending any schedule other than Full-Time(M-F), it is the parents responsibility to confirm their child is attending each day they attend.** What this means is that each day your child attends we need to receive a confirmation message by no later than 12pm confirming your child needs to be picked up. If for any reason your child is not attending After School on a day they are scheduled to, it is mandatory that we are notified of this by 12pm as well.



### **Dangerous Behaviors/Separation**

It is our responsibility to ensure the safety of all children who enter our classrooms. We require a very high level of self discipline and personal responsibility for each student. This is the only way we are able to do all of the crazy trips and activities in a safe manner. If disciplinary incidents arise, we will communicate them to parents immediately as appropriate or at the end of the day. While we do our best to redirect challenging behaviors, there are situations where a child may need a more individualized approach to tackling their challenging behavior. If a child is struggling with challenging behaviors for a prolonged period of time without making progress, we are committed to working with each family to find additional resources needed to help that child. Some of those may include a different program that can offer individualized care. **We are not an individualized care based center. We are not offering one on one care to any individual child for a prolonged period of time. We reserve the right to dismiss any student from our program at any time in order to maintain the safety and quality of our program.** We ask that all students treat other students and teachers with respect. We are all on the same team working towards accomplishing the same goal (having the most FUN possible and Learning!).