



Parents Handbook

Dear Parents,

We thank you for entrusting your very special treasures into our hands as we work together in teaching, guiding and growing the children of Bayside into the men and women that God has given them the potential to be.

As said by George Barna, 'Effective ministry to children, by parents or church related workers, demands substantial energy, time and interaction.' We are excited to be on this journey with you, and fully understand our role in supporting your efforts in raising your children 'in the way that they should go.'

Within this handbook we hope to answer any questions that you may have regarding who we are and what we do. However, if you have any questions, please talk to any of our leaders or the appropriate member of the Bayside Kids team as outlined in this handbook.

Looking forward to it,

Bayside Kids Team

Our Vision for your children:

We are partnering with parents to show the children who God is and point them to His truth and light. We do this with intentional teaching and a strategy based on Orange curriculum.

Belong, Believe, Behave.

This is what we want for each child, a sense of **belonging** and acceptance that will influence what the children **believe** about church, their peers and God and in turn this will influence how they **behave** and the choices they will make about appropriate behaviour in the future.

Who we are and what we do..

Bayside Kids runs four different programs over our weekend services. Listed below are the departments, their leaders and general information.

Little Buddies



We don't waste time; getting started young, as walking through to preschool children have fun through interaction, creative play and music! Little Buddies is for children who are walking up to 3 yr old kinder age.

Little Buddies combines with Big Buddies on Saturdays and starts at the beginning of service.

It is also runs separately on Sunday morning at the Cheltenham campus.

Little Buddies combine with Big Buddies on Sundays at the Frankston campus.

Leader: Michelle Gilpin – mgilpin@baysidechurch.com.au

Big Buddies



Our Big Buddies learn about the love of God through easy to follow worship, stories, craft and activities. Big Buddies is for 3 and 4yr old kinder age and runs on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings at the Cheltenham campus as well as Sunday mornings at the Frankston campus.

Leader: Michelle Gilpin – mgilpin@baysidechurch.com.au

Kidz Rock



Through a fine balance of fun and real life learning we equip primary school aged children with tools to help them grow into complete, secure and passionate people. Kidz Rock runs during our Saturday night and Sunday morning services at all campuses. Leader: Onida Weir/ Mitch Wynne oweir@baysidechurch.com.au

Intensity



Intensity takes pre-teens in grades 5 and 6 on a journey of discovery with God. After a powerful time of worship with the main church, our amazing leaders equip kids to bring their relationship with God into a deeper and more personal level. We have awesome bible teaching, supernatural prayer and lots of FUN! Intensity runs during our Saturday night service at our Cheltenham campus.

Leaders: Phil and Kathleen Vergers – vergers@optusnet.com.au

What we are doing and how you can help?

All children are taught at their learning level, not age, as done in kindergarten and school, so as to effectively teach ('cause to learn').

As mentioned previously, one of our objectives is to reinforce your efforts in raising your children to be spiritual champions. In the same way, we too need your support in our effort in doing the same. Therefore, we ask you to please do the following:

Bayside Buddies:

- Provide a water bottle and piece of fruit each week.
- Help in the Buddies room on a roster basis.
- Ask your child about what they learnt that week and talk about these lessons.

Signing your child in/out of Buddies

- Parents are to bring their children to the Buddies room and sign their child in on the form provided.
- Parents must collect their children within 15 minutes of the service ending and sign their children out on the sheet provided.

Kidz Rock:

- Encourage your child to bring a bible and offering each week.
- Bring a healthy snack for your child.
- Ask what your child learnt, and reinforce these lessons.

Signing your child in/out of Kidz Rock

- Parents must accompany their children to the Kidz Rock room and assist with signing/scanning in.
- Parents must collect their children within 15 minutes of the service ending and sign/scan the children out.

Name tags and loyalty cards for Kidz Rock children.

All Bayside church attending kids receive a permanent name tag which has a loyalty card attached. The name tag has a barcode printed on the back. As part of our OHS requirements all children need to be scanned into the system or signed in at the start of each session and also scanned/signed out at the end.

Children receive a click on the loyalty cards for various tasks such as bringing a friend, bringing and taking home their Bible, helping out in church and completing the activity. Once the loyalty card is full it is sent to the office and a replacement is provided as well as a reward prize.

Our Policies

Please be aware of these procedures, and support us in them as we make a safe place for your children!

Child Safety And Protection Mission Statement

Bayside Church is committed to the safety and well-being of all children, who access our services, programs and activities. We are committed to the prevention of all forms of child abuse including physical, emotional and sexual abuse. We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times. Bayside Church is committed to ensuring best practice screening, recruitment, supervision and training processes for all staff and volunteers working directly and indirectly with children under the age of 18. Further we will seek to act immediately and appropriately when we become aware of any known or suspected incidences of child abuse.

Recruitment

All workers and leaders of children must have the prior approval of the Children's Pastor and have undergone a suitable screening and recruitment process including a Working with Children check.

Bayside Kids Discipline procedure

These are the steps followed for a child who causes major disturbances in the program.

Step 1: Warning – Simple, clear warning

Step 2: Private consultation – Private consultation with the child, within eyesight of the rest of the group regarding the incident and possible alternatives to the behaviour.

Step 3: Parent consultation – The child will be kept back at the end of the session and will be expected to explain their behaviour to the parent.

Step 4: Removal from program – If none of the above works, the leader may request the parents to collect the child from any area during the session.

Step 5: Suspension from activities – In extreme cases, after consultation with the Children's ministry leader and parents a child might be precluded from activities for a period of time.

At no time is physical punishment or threat of physical punishment permissible, even with parent approval.

**Once a child has been collected, they are then the responsibility of the parent and are not permitted back in the Kidz Rock or Buddies areas.
Please ensure that you supervise your children once they leave our program.**

We would like to combine the influence of **the family** with the **faith community** to demonstrate **the message** of God's story, in order to **influence** the next generation and the next and the next. Together we can incite wonder, provoke discovery and fuel passion for God and so work towards our vision for Bayide Kids.