

252 Lucas Creek Road – Newport News VA 23602

Office: 757-877-2941 Fax:757-877-6510

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Thank you for inquiring about Warwick River Christian. At WRC we welcome families from all creeds, races, and national origins. We believe that children are a gift from God, and we are dedicated to providing each child with love, understanding and acceptance.

This packet provides you with general information regarding WRC, which is a part of Warwick River Christian School, Inc.

Mrs. Ann Byrne Aulich - Director
Mrs. Jennifer Toth - Assistant Director

"Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path."

Psalm 119:105

REVISED January 2021

WRCS, Inc.
Vision and Mission Statements

Vision Statement

The Vision of Warwick River Christian School, Inc. is that our students will be well equipped academically and spiritually through a nurturing, caring, safe, Christian educational environment. Each individual is encouraged to lead a life of purpose and of service to our Lord Jesus Christ and exemplify a lifestyle of grace and peace.

Our Mission

The Mission of Warwick River Christian School, Inc. is to serve families on the Virginia Peninsula by offering quality education and child care for preschool, elementary, and middle school children in an environment that inspires students and their families to know and follow Jesus Christ.

Warwick River Christian
Preschool & Learning Center
252 Lucas Creek Road
Newport News, VA 23602
757-877-2941 Fax: 757-877-6510
wrclc@warwickriver.org
SCHOOL FOUNDED IN 1942
LEARNING CENTER OPENED 1989

Learning Center hours are 6:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Preschool class time is from 8:30 to 12:30 for half day
and 8:30 to 3:00 for all day

Warwick River Christian provides structured learning and discovery activities in a loving Christian atmosphere. Enrollment is open to the community. We offer:

- Year-round care
- Full time, part time, for ages 2 1/2 to 5 years old
- Before and After Care for school age children
- Hourly, daily, and weekly rates for the Learning Center
- Traditional 4K program, Sept-June (child needs to be 4 by 9/30)
- Christian approach to child development and learning
- Safe, nurturing environment
- Nutritious, healthy meals and snacks
- Summer Camp with weekly field trips for students who have completed 4K and up
- Enrollment capacity of 255 children
- Staff that are CPR and First Aid Certified
- One staff member MAT certified is always onsite

WRC operates under a Commonwealth of Virginia exemption clause offered to childcare centers and preschools operated by a religious organization. We are governed by a governing board made up of representatives from two Newport News Mennonite churches: Warwick River and Huntington. As a religious exempt center, we are required to comply with all applicable City of Newport News and State of Virginia fire, safety, and health standards. Documentation is submitted annually to the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) to maintain our religious exemption status. Required in this documentation is a Staff Health Report form that all staff members

are required to have completed annually by their physician. WRC is inspected twice a year by the Peninsula Health Department and annually by the Newport News Fire Department. Background checks are performed on all employees in accordance with VDSS requirements, this includes fingerprinting.

WRC consists of a large two-story school building covered by a liability policy through Philadelphia Insurance. The school building has two large stairways and an elevator. There are 9 classrooms (5 classrooms with bathrooms), an office, a kitchen and two large bathrooms on the first floor. On the second floor there are 8 classrooms and two large bathrooms. All classrooms have sinks for hand washing. Handwashing is required upon arriving and leaving, after using the restroom, before and after eating and after playing outside or whenever needed. We have two playgrounds. The area used by our 2 ½ to 5-year-olds attending the learning center is completely fenced-in.

Staff at WRC must be at least 16 years old. However, most of our staff members are over 21 years old. Positions for 16-year-olds are limited. They always work with a senior staff member and are never left alone with the children. All staff members are required to complete 15 hours of ongoing child development training annually. Multiple staff members certified in CPR and First Aid are onsite during operating hours and on field trips. At least one staff member certified in Medication Administration and Daily Health Observation is on site during operating hours and in attendance on field trips.

CLOSINGS

Holidays

WRC closes for the following holidays either on that day or when observed:

New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day & the Friday after, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We may also close before Christmas Eve and after Christmas. This determination is made annually and is based on patrons' needs and how Christmas falls on the calendar.

During Christmas Break and Spring Break, advanced sign-up is requested. Actual dates will change yearly.

Weather Closings

In the event of inclement weather, WRC operates under different guidelines than schools. We remain open when possible. The safety of our staff is also important to us and we do not want to place our staff member at risk by having them on the roads in hazardous conditions. Closings will be posted on our voice mail and via public media.

School Closings

When schools are closed for reasons other than above holidays and weather closings, children who attend the closed schools may attend WRC as needed. We do request that you inform us ahead of time of your need for child care on those days so that we may staff accordingly.

General Guidelines:

Personal Belongings

Make sure that your child's name is on all items that are brought to WRC. That includes jackets/coats, backpacks, lunch boxes, water bottles, nap items, extra clothing, etc.

Electronics are not to be brought into the facility by your child. This includes any and all handheld devices of any kind. We are not responsible for these items if they are brought in and they are lost, broken, or damaged.

Visitation

Parent and guardians are welcome to visit. Prior notice is not required. Be aware that your visit may be a distraction for the children, and your leaving emotional for your child. If there is an issue or concern you would like to address, contact the Director to schedule an appointment.

Child Safety

The State of Virginia requires all child care workers to report incidences or situations where children are placed at risk.

- Be advised that if we suspect someone who is picking up a child is intoxicated or appears impaired, we will intervene. A staff member will offer to call someone else to pick up the child. If, however, the intoxicated/impaired driver persists in driving with the child, the vehicle information will be written down and the police contacted.
- Cases of suspected child abuse or neglect will be reported to Child Protective Services.

HEALTH AND MEDICATION:

Illness

It is inevitable that children will get sick, no matter where they are. In a child care setting, the illness of one child can spread rapidly to other children and staff members. You, the parent, can help us in our effort to keep all the children in our care healthy, by keeping your child home if he/she is not feeling well. If your child, while at WRC, shows symptoms of being unwell, you will be called and asked to come immediately. Please respond promptly.

Guidelines for illness requiring exclusion from WRC until **symptom free** for 24 hours:

- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Elevated body temperature over 99.5 degrees
- A contagious disease
- Conjunctivitis
- Severe coughing – child gets red or blue in face

Also, keep your child home 24 hours after the first dose of a prescribed antibiotic.

If your child is sent home with an illness, he/she must be symptom free for 24 hours, with no medication that can mask an elevated body temperature before returning to WRC. It is imperative that we all work together to keep everyone healthy.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Washing Hands

Hand washing is a very important component in the prevention of illnesses in groups of children. Children wash their hands:

- Before snacks and meals
- Each time they use the restroom
- After sneezing or blowing nose
- After any contact with body fluids
- After playing outside

HEALTH AND MEDICATION POLICIES:

Medication and Medical Policies:

Staff members are CPR and First-Aid trained. Selected staff members are Medication Administration Training certified to administer prescription and over-the-counter medications. At least one or more MAT certified staff members are on site during operating hours. A completed "Request for Medication" form is required for all medications. Any medication, whether prescription or over-the-counter that needs to be taken longer than 10 days requires a doctor's signature on the "Request for Medication" form. Medications such as inhalers, nebulizers and Epi-pens also require a doctor's signature on the "Request for Medication" form. A copy of this form can be found online from our website. Also, you may pick up a copy from the WRC office.

All medicine should be in the original container. Prescription medicine must have the label from the pharmacy on the container. A parent or adult guardian must bring the medication to WRC and give it to a staff member. Children may not transport or have in their possession any medicine, either prescription or over-the-counter.

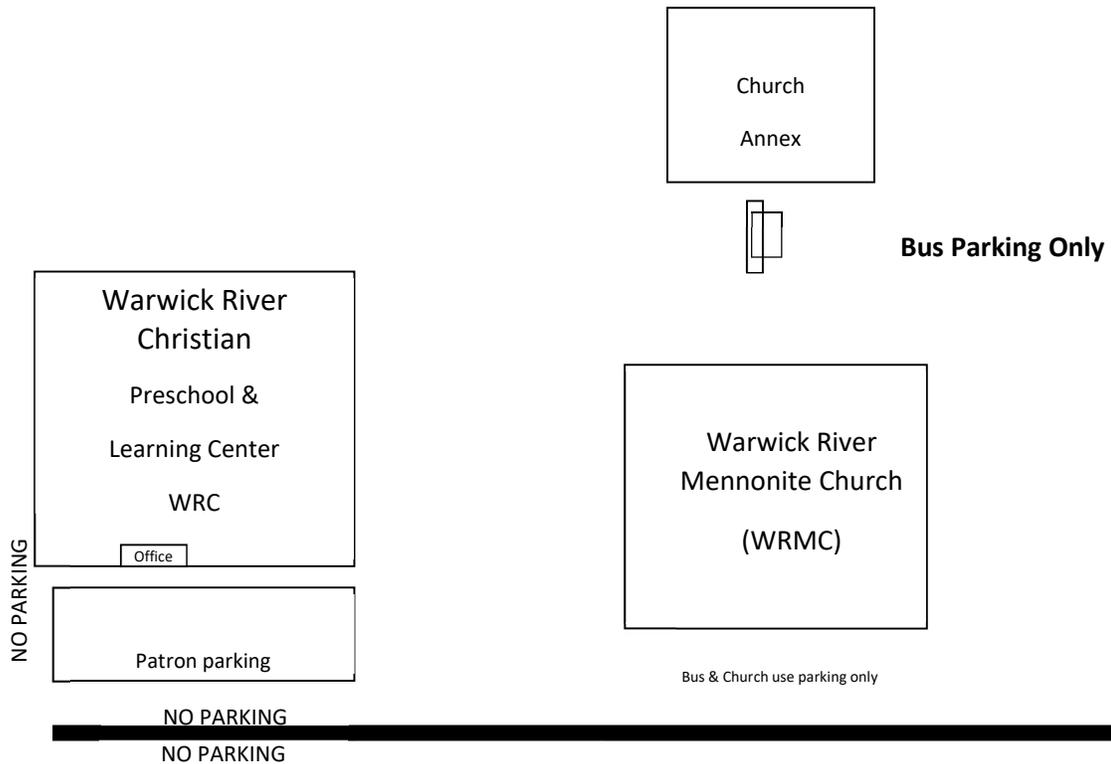
TERMINATION POLICIES

We request two weeks' notice when you no longer need our services.

Unfortunately, there are times when a child will need to be removed from our Learning Center or Preschool. This is something we truly do not want to do and will work diligently with the family to avoid. However, there are situations where this may happen such as, but not limited to:

- Delinquent accounts
- Children who continually and intentionally disrupt the physical or emotional wellbeing of the other children
- Children who are continually disrespectful or physically aggressive to staff members

WRC Parking Lot Guidelines



Warwick River Christian and Warwick River Mennonite Church share the same parking lot. To ensure the safety of all children and adults using the facilities on this campus the following guidelines apply.

- Enter the parking lot with caution, proceeding carefully and slowly. Be alert, no speeding.
- Maximum speed limit is 10 miles per hour.
- During the times you will be dropping off or picking up child(ren), many other children are also being dropped off or picked up. **Watch out for children.**
- Do not pass or go around the buses that are dropping off or picking children up when their safety lights are flashing.
- Be courteous. Wait your turn, use turn signals and be a team player.
- Drivers remain responsible for traffic safety.

WHAT MENNONITES BELIEVE

Warwick River Christian School, Inc is a ministry of two of the Mennonite churches in Newport News, Huntington, and Warwick River and is affiliated with the Virginia Mennonite Conference and the larger Mennonite Church USA. The school does not require students or their families to be members of any church. Christian teachings and values will be a vital part of their school experience.

As part of the Anabaptist movement during the Protestant Reformation, the Mennonite Church traces its beginnings to Zurich, Switzerland in 1525. The church was eventually nicknamed for Menno Simons, who left the Roman Catholic priesthood in 1536 and gave major leadership to the movement until his death in 1561. Major points of the Mennonite expression of Christianity may be summarized as follows:

- We believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, our personal Savior, and model for life. All other allegiances are secondary to this.
- We believe in the Trinity: God, the Father; God, the Son; and God, the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that reading and following the Bible is central to a Christian life.
- We believe we can have new life in Christ and forgiveness for sins.
- We practice "believer's baptism," a voluntary decision to join the church and commit oneself to a lifetime of following Jesus.
- We reach out to the whole world, regardless of racial or political differences.
- We belong to each other through caring, confronting, and supporting.
- We seek to live peacefully with all people in the world, following Christ's command to love enemies along with our family and friends, pursuing justice and mercy, and refusing violence against anyone.

Everyone is welcome to participate in our congregational fellowship, worship, and teaching, with invitation to the activities of:

Huntington Mennonite Church, 785 Harpersville Road, NN VA 23601 595-6889

Warwick River Mennonite Church, 250 Lucas Creek Road, NN VA 23602 874-0794

