

Playground Use Guidelines (updated 8/7/19)

In order to ensure the safety of children while at Eliot Chapel, please follow the guidelines listed below. **Please remember that the playground is operated and maintained by the Eliot Chapel Nursery School (ECNS) and is designed primarily with the needs of children six (6) and under in mind.**

General:

No children should be left unattended on the playground without designated adult supervision. Older children left unattended can misuse equipment or play in dangerous ways that can result in injury to younger children or themselves.

For Religious Education Teachers & Eliot Chapel Staff Members:

During class, if you decide to spend some time outside, please remember the following:

- **Preschool teachers** should schedule any outdoor play during the first half of the class period (9:40-10:00), so as to avoid overlapping with older children. **Dismissal and pickup for preschool classes should always occur in the classroom.**
- Leave a note or sign on your classroom door so families know where you are.
- **Both teachers must accompany the class outside.**
- Teachers are expected to **actively supervise children** while on the playground and make sure that all children and sections of the playground are under adult watch at all times.
- Remind children before going outside that the same **respectful behavior** of other people and property indoors applies to people and property outdoors.
- Special nursery school projects (flower pots, plantings, artwork, etc.) should be undisturbed, to the extent possible.
- **Children under the age of 2** should not be on the playground UNLESS a parent/guardian is present.
- **Children who are in the nursery SHOULD NOT be taken outside.**

Older Children & Youth: Religious Education Classes & Youth Groups which include youth in **5th grade and older** SHOULD NOT use the playground for outdoor activity. Please use the **field by the back parking lot** for outdoor youth activities.

Rainbow Climber:

This can be a tricky piece of equipment for young children. If any child from a preschool level class decides to play on it, **one teacher needs to be nearby watching at all times.**

Blue Boat:

This is a fragile piece of equipment. **Please remind children (especially older kids) not to jump on this equipment as it can be easily damaged.**

Playground Dismissal:

- Parents/guardians should sign out their children and then immediately retrieve them. **Parents/guardians are then responsible for their own children.**
- Be sure you have all children signed out by a parent/guardian before leaving the playground.
- Please make sure all coffee mugs, clipboards, and other non-playground items are returned to where they belong.