

About our Kindergarten

Guidelines for Kid's Kindergarten Life

“And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bear fruit a hundredfold.”

(8:8, Gospel of Luke)



Doujin-Midori Kindergarten

There is no time in life when children are more influenced by their families than their childhood. The same applies to the influence of kindergartens, where children experience group, social life for the first time. We hope that we and children's families can always share the same perspectives and communicate and cooperate with each other to develop children.

The Doujin-Midori Kindergarten is a Christian kindergarten with a hundred-year history. It was founded in 1908 by an American missionary who belonged to the Universalist Church.

Based on the founder's belief that one of the Church's most important missions was infant education, we have been trying to take care of our children with Christian love.

We have been playing a leading role in community. Over the years, we have produced a number of graduates with support and trust from their parents.

Our children enjoy their kindergarten life in a good environment equipped with a large earthy playground, a lot of greenery, qualified teachers and classes consisting of a small number of children.

We are, and will be, committed to our long-standing policy of focusing on individual children.

Our Education Focuses on:

<Christianity>

To learn during one's infancy that he/she is protected and loved by God has great significance in his/her later development.

We try to teach children to believe in God, to worship and pray Him, to have gratitude and to sympathize with others. We hope that our children will live with Jesus, recognizing that every person is the one and only being created by God.

<Individual Children>

Every child has his/her own full personality and wonderful possibilities. Focusing on individual personalities, we hope to develop a child who sees well, listens well, thinks well and can take initiative and act for himself/herself. For this purpose, we encourage our children to take care of themselves.

<Play>

For children, play is everything. Playing develops their concentration, leads them to new discoveries and promotes their creativity. As they spend time in nature and deal with various materials, they learn to actively try and to work with friends.

Prepare Your Child for Admission

It helps to start his/her kindergarten life smoothly if he/she is able to:

- ★1. Keep regular wake-up and bedtime hours.
2. Put on and off his/her clothes without help.
3. Put on and off his/her shoes without help.
4. Wash and dry his/her face and hands.
5. Gargle.
- ★6. Eat without help.
- ★7. Defecate every morning.
8. Go to the bathroom alone.
9. Pull down and up his/her underwear without help, and
10. Say “yes” when his/her name is called.



It is preferable that a 3-year-old can do the things marked with ★, while a 4-year-old can meet all the ten requirements.

Message to Parents

Before worrying about anything, closely observe your child as he/she is.

Children are waiting to start their first communal life with both excitement and fear.

Don't scold your kid for minor mistakes, relax and be patient.

Support him/her so that he will be able to:

1. Try to do things on his/her own
2. Try to play with other kids (though the ability to play alone is also important for 3-year-olds)
3. Act without minding his/her mistakes too much

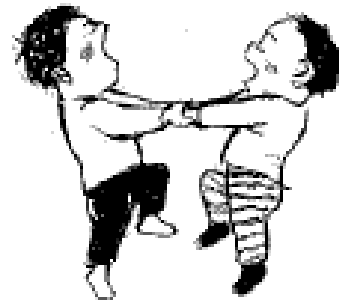


As your child starts his/her kindergarten life, you also start a new life.

Remember that to create a new parent-child relationship in the new environment, your mental readiness is needed.

Daily Timetable at Kindergarten

9:00	
-9:30	Children arrive at kindergarten Preparation for the day Free play time (playing house, playing with blocks and Lego, painting, etc.)
10:00	Group (class- or kindergarten-wide) activity -Church service (hymns, pray and bible stories) -Weekly or monthly thematic activity Gesture games, songs, rhythm activity, manual training, etc. -Free play time
11:20	Tidying up
11:50	Lunchtime Reading picture books
12:30	Free play time
13:20	Tidying up Preparation for going home -Picture books read by teachers, stories, gesture games, songs, etc. -Church service
14:00	Children leave for home



* The above timetable can change depending on the season and the children's status.

[Kindergarten Hours]

Monday through Friday (except Wednesday)

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday (half-day)

9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

[Seasonal Events]

First semester from April to August

Entrance ceremony, make-friends party, homeroom teachers visit the children's homes, health check, excursion with parents, going to a puppet show, bazaar, star festival, summer evening party, overnight stay in kindergarten (senior classes only), and summer class

Second semester from September to December

Athletic festival, kindergarten foundation anniversary, autumn excursion, harvest festival, and Christmas service and party



Third semester from January to March

New Year's party, rice-cake making, graduation excursion and playing in the snow (senior classes only), soybean-throwing festival; orientation for parents of newly-admitted children, girl's festival, farewell party, and graduation ceremony

* Events can change from year to year.

* We also have monthly birthday parties, evacuation drills, and a parent meeting and parent interview in each semester.

* We are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, on national holidays, during summer, winter and spring vacations, and on the day of kindergarten foundation.

[Classes and Personnel] (* for 2009)

Two classes ("Paulownia" and "Zelcova") for 5-year-olds attended by two teachers

Two classes ("Dandelion" and "Butterfly") for 4-year-olds attended by two teachers and two assistants

Two classes ("Little Bird" and "Rabbit") for 3-year-olds attended by two teachers and two assistants

-Director, chief teacher, six teachers, four assistants, two teachers and three assistants in charge of the "Midori Club;" three teachers in charge of the infant room, and one janitor

-A special instructor in physical exercises

-A physician and a dentist



[Communication between Kindergarten and Home]

- When your child returns home each day, look in his/her bag to see if there is any letter from us. Letters are in the “letter case.” Return the case the next day.
- Read “Kindergarten Newsletter” and other letters carefully.
- Any materials, letters and payments to be submitted to us should be submitted by the due date. To pay for excursions and books, put the exact amount of money in the “money collection bag.”
- When your child takes home the “shopping bag,” make sure to return it the next day.
- If you’d like to talk to your child’s homeroom teacher, please wait until after kindergarten hours.
- Never call the teachers at home except in emergency.
- You can write messages in the “communication notebook” to inform us of your kid’s status, procedural affairs and other information. Homeroom teachers also use the notebook to communicate with you. After you read any message, make sure to put your signature. Always keep this notebook in your child’s bag.

[Miscellaneous]

- We hold a monthly birthday party. Parents of birthday children are most welcome. Take this opportunity to observe your kid’s kindergarten life. We thank God for and celebrate our friends’ birthdays, take seasonal snacks and have a wonderful time.
- Every child should purchase and take home a picture book (*Kodomo-no-Tomo* series published by Fukuinkan) a month. Please help your child to read it. If you like, we can recommend additional good books for children.
- We have an after-kindergarten program called “*Midori Club*.” It is also available in early mornings and evenings. Please contact the secretariat for more information.
- We will let you know by letter the details of birthday parties, purchase of books, lunch, evacuation drills, and training in picking up your kid in emergency.
- Don’t bring snacks and toys to kindergarten. Make sure to keep your child’s nails short and clean.