

Kidsville U.S.A.

8464 Corbin Avenue, Northridge CA 91324

(818) 886-3508

Fax: (818) 709-6678

Elementary Program

“Growth through Caring”



Parent Handbook

WELCOME TO KIDSVILLE U.S.A.

Dear Parents:

Thank you for choosing our school for your child. We look forward to a positive and pleasant relationship with you.

We are proud of our facility which offers a safe, loving, and nurturing environment in which children may experience many educational and creative activities at his/her own developmental level.

Kidsville, U.S.A. is fully licensed by the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, is approved by both the Department of Health and the local Fire Department. These agencies continue to inspect the facility regularly so that you can be assured that your child is cared for in a safe environment. This Parent Handbook is designed to assist you in understanding policies and procedures adopted by this facility to satisfy the regulations mandated by these agencies. After reading this handbook, please feel free to discuss any of its contents with us.

We maintain an 'open door' policy. Parents are invited to visit any time during the facility's operational hours. Our staff is always available for questions or concerns regarding your child.

The confidence you have shown in **Kidsville U.S.A.** by enrolling your child in our Elementary Program is greatly appreciated. The individual needs of each child are a high priority to us and we will do everything possible to meet those needs educationally, socially, physically and emotionally.

Kidsville U.S.A. Elementary Program is based on individual interests, values, abilities and the potential of each child. Children are accepted and respected and our facility maintains a policy of inclusiveness, never discriminating against any child or family due to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or social class. This promotes an atmosphere of respect and acceptance.

This is an exciting time in your child's life and we feel privileged that you have chosen **Kidsville U.S.A.** to share in it.

Cordially,

Maureen T. Perera
Director

Our Philosophy

We at **Kidsville U.S.A.** strive to provide an educational environment that encompasses all aspects of early childhood growth. At Kidsville U.S.A. we strive to provide the children with an opportunity to learn and develop all their natural skills. Realizing that all children are born different, we at Kidsville U.S.A. promote the success of each child to grow with pride and self-realization. We have been dedicated to the growth and development of children for over 30 years and in our caring atmosphere, we ensure that all children grow with respect to self and each other.

Our Goal

Through careful planning we aim to meet the different individual needs of each child in our program and provide a broad and balanced curriculum.

Our daily activities aim to provide meaningful experiences, through which children can explore, think, apply existing knowledge and develop new skills.

The nurturing environment creates a place:

- Where children feel secure and welcome.
- Where they have space and time for all areas of learning. They will be involved in choosing how to spend some of their time and make decisions about what, where and how to act.
- Where they can have the opportunity to widen their social skills by making new relationships and maintaining them, through being fair, consistent, kind and sharing materials.
- We aim to provide a range of resources and a variety of materials which;
 - Children can use on their own, in groups, or with counselor's.
 - Are stimulating and allow for creativity, progression and encourage problem solving.
 - Allow children to experience success.
- Finally, our staff aims to establish relationships with children in which respect is given, self-esteem is encouraged, and independence is developed.

Elementary Program

Admission:

Children must be at least 4.9 years old to enter our Elementary Program. Space is limited, and we can accept new children only as space becomes available. Parents may secure a space by requesting to be placed on our Wait List and pre-paying the non-refundable registration fee. Priority is given to children being promoted from our Preschool Program, families with siblings already enrolled in one of our programs, followed by those on the Wait List who pre-paid the registration fee. If space is still available, families that inquired about our Elementary Program but did not register will be contacted.

Program Days and Hours of Operation:

Our facility is open year-round from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except for the following standard Holidays:

New Year's Eve

Dr. Martin Luther King's Day

Presidents' Day

Labor Day

Memorial Day

Christmas Day & Day after

New Year's Day & Day after

July 4th

Thanksgiving Day & Day after

Veterans' Day

Christmas Eve

Tuition includes these paid legal holidays. We publish and distribute the dates of all holidays each year; however, they are subject to change with adequate notice.

Kindergarten runs from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and First Grade runs from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuition includes, before and after school care.

On or Before the First Day of Care:

A complete set of the following forms must be brought to the school;

1. Identification and Emergency Information form
2. Child's Preadmission Health History – Parents Report
3. Physician's Report & copy of immunization record*
4. Consent for Emergency Medical Treatment

5. Enrollment Agreement
6. Parent's Rights form
7. Personal Rights form
8. Registration Form
9. Medication and Allergy Information form
10. Child Emergency Information Card
11. Parent Handbook Acknowledgment
12. Holiday Schedule
13. Authorization to Display Photo, audio, visual
14. Parent Emergency Evacuation Information Form
15. Authorization to Pick-Up Child form
16. Moon Bounce Authorization
17. Filed Trip Authorization
18. Food Program Form

***No child is admitted without an up to date immunization record. Please give the office copies of immunization records when your child receives a booster or new immunization.**

The following supplies are required;

Extra set of clothing to be left at school in case they accidentally soil what they are wearing.

All items must be clearly marked with your child's name.

Daily Routine:

Children must be brought to the center and **signed in** on the log. The receiving teacher will greet you and assess your child for signs of illness. Please be advised that children showing obvious signs of illness will not be admitted for the day.

Children's supplies can be dropped off before you leave.

Persons Permitted to Pick-Up Your Child:

Anyone not listed on your child's Emergency Card will not be allowed to pick-up your child. If someone comes to pick up your child who is not authorized the facility will **NOT** release the child.

It is imperative that the school has at least 3 current phone numbers of people authorized to pick up your child in case of emergency and let us know at drop off if you'd planned on someone else to pick your child up that day.

Clothing:

Dress your child in washable play clothing, since playing is an important part of our program. Elementary children should wear shoes and socks that are suitable for play. We recommend tennis shoes. Please no sandals or boots as they present a hazard for children on play yard equipment.

Clothing needs to be appropriate for the season and comfortable. Jackets and/or sweaters are needed for early mornings and late afternoons most months of the year and are required always during cold weather. **Mark your child's name on all clothing – the inside tag is a good place for this.**

Lost and Found:

Every year children lose or misplace many clothing items of value. When found by a staff member we check to see if the item contains a child's name and return it immediately. If it does not, it is placed in the Lost and Found in front of the green area. It is your responsibility to check the Lost and Found area if you are missing an item. **Kidsville U.S.A. is not responsible for any item that has not been marked.** Articles not claimed are given to a charitable organization at the end of the year.

Sign-in and Out:

California state law requires that **ALL** children be **signed in** and received by a teacher upon his/her arrival at school. Children are assessed for obvious signs of illness upon arrival. You are also required to **sign out** when your child departs our facility. Please sign your full name. Your cooperation is most appreciated for the welfare and protection of your child.

Safety Hints when you are Dropping off or Picking Up:

All children must be transported to and from school in a car seat approved for their age and weight.

We ask that you use extreme caution when taking your child to or from the facility. Carry smaller children or have them walk with you holding your hand.

Things that are not allowed at school:

The following items are not permitted in school;

1. Guns, knives, swords, fighting instruments of any kind whether real or replicates.
2. Glass containers of any kind
3. Gum, candy or soda.
4. Lipstick or nail polish
5. Watches
6. Phones
7. Money
8. No pets are allowed on campus.
9. No laser pointers
- 10.No harmful liquids

Vacation/Illness Days:

Please inform us in advance if possible of any day your child will not be attending school. Please be advised that tuition is still due for absences due to vacation, illness, or other reasons. **No credit or adjustment will be made for absences of any kind.** This is to ensure that we can maintain qualified staff and the high level of service that provides for the well-being of your child.

Illness Policy:

If your child will be out of school due to injury or illness please notify the office so that we can inform the teacher not to expect you that day. We'll also need to be informed if your child has a contagious disease.

For the health of your child and the other children enrolled, please do not send your child to school when he/she is sick. Children are not accepted in school if they have heavy congestion, a rash, open sores, a high temperature or other obvious signs of illness. Children must be well enough to benefit from our program and to participate in all activities, both inside and out.

If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be called to pick him/her up. It is essential that emergency cards be kept up-to-date with the accurate and current phone number for you and at least three (3) people who can pick-up your child if we are unable to reach you. We will isolate your child from the other children and care for them until you or an authorized alternate arrives to pick him/her up.

If your child is not picked up within 45 minutes of our call, you may be subject to a fee for every 15 minutes, as a staff member must be assigned to care for your child during this time.

Be advised that children must be fever free for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

When a child has been sent home ill and remains out of school for two (2) or more days because of illness a doctor's note is required for re-admittance.

Criteria in determining illness:

1. A Fever of more than 100 degrees.
2. Excessive sneezing or coughing or any difficulty breathing.
3. Any discharge from the eyes.
4. Excessive runny nose or discharge that is green or yellow.
5. Ear pain.
6. Vomiting one time with fever or two times in one day without fever.
7. Communicable illness such as measles, chicken pox, etc.
8. Head Lice.
9. Listlessness, paleness, flushed, stomach ache, or constant complaints of pain or distress.

Contagious Diseases:

It is essential that the school be notified immediately if your child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease, whether the child is in the facility or not. The facility will inform all parents regarding exposure to communicable diseases immediately. We are required to keep accurate records regarding diseases. The following diseases are handled in the manner described below:

Strep Throat

The child may return after the third day of medication without fever. A doctor's release is required after medication has ended; be sure that the child is well before returning to school.

Fever

The child may return 24 hours after the fever has ended.

Ringworm

The child may return to school after infected area has cleared.

Scabies	The child must stay home until five (5) days after the second treatment. A doctor's release is required to re-enter the program.
Chicken Pox	The child may return after all eruptions of the rash have dried, crusted over and cleared from the skin.
Pinworms	A doctor's release to return must be presented.
Impetigo	The child may return when the sores are cleared from the skin.
Pink Eye	The child may return when the eyes are clear and there is no discharge.
Rash	The child may return when the rash is gone, or it's diagnosed by a physician in writing as being non-infectious.
Head Lice	The child may return when all the nits (egg pockets) are cleared completely from the child's hair.
Hand Foot & Mouth	The child may return to school when their fever goes away, and their mouth sores have healed.

Medication:

It is our policy not to administer any medication to the child.

Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan:

In case of an anaphylaxis emergency the school will administer a Jr. EpiPen if the parent has provided the school an EpiPen with a doctor's note and the container clearly marked with your child's information.

Parents are welcome to come to the school and administer medication themselves.

Non-Smoking Policy:

The state of California prohibits smoking on or near the school's premises. Therefore, **SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED ON KIDSVILLE U.S.A. GROUNDS OR AT ANY OF OUR FUNCTIONS.**

Tuition Payments:

Tuition is always payable in advance and due the first day your child attends **Kidsville U.S.A.** There is no tuition credit of any kind.

Fees:

Fees are due and payable on or before your child's first day;

- Registration Fee
- Insurance Fee
- Earthquake Kit Fee
- Security Deposit

Tuition Late Fee which is charged if tuition is not received by the end of the second day of the current pay period (weekly or monthly) unless special arrangements have been made with the director or administrator.

Late Pick-up Fee is due at the time of service and must be paid directly to the staff member who cared for your child until you arrived.

Return Check Fee is charged whenever your bank returns your check for any reason. Please be advised that you are also subject to a Tuition Late Fee if we receive replacement funds after the due date. Should a consistent pattern of return checks develop the facility reserves the right to request future payments to the facility be made by money order or ATM.

The amounts of all fees are disclosed in your Admission Agreement.

Tuition and Fee Changes:

Parents will be given written notice 30 calendar days before any changes in tuition or fees. You will be required to sign acceptance of these new terms by signing a new Admission Agreement.

Emergencies:

In the event of any emergency our staff will follow our Emergency Disaster Plan. Whether we are sheltering in place or are forced to relocate the children in our care will be cared for in a safe and orderly manner just as we have been trained. We will relocate only if it is unsafe for us to remain on campus until you can come. Notices will be posted to alert you to our evacuation location and teachers will have taken our emergency files with them so that your child will be released only to you or your designate. We will make every effort to contact you or your emergency contacts by phone. Please do not call the school as all phone lines available must be kept free for us to coordinate with emergency services.

Discipline:

At Kidsville U.S.A. we believe in using positive discipline techniques to handle behavior problems. Techniques used for all children are age appropriate and children are helped into better behavior patterns. With most children a modification of environment or a change of activities and adult interaction is generally all that is needed.

If a behavior doesn't resolve with these techniques, a parent conference will be held to discuss what may have provoked it, what concerns the parents have, and what circumstances have changed for the child (new member of the family, a family member's illness, etc.). Then we will develop a plan together to assist your child to adjust.

Parent Communication with the Facility:

Kidsville U.S.A. believes that the staff and the parents should speak freely and work together. Daily, multiple things affect your child at home or away from school. We would like to know the reasons for your child's excitement, sadness, or any mood changes. Please let his/her teacher know what the reason maybe for any changes on a given day. We will make every effort to be attentive to their emotional needs. When school is over, be sure to check with the teacher to find out how your child's day progressed.

Termination Policy:

This Center is not staffed to provide individual attention for children who may have special needs. Such children will be referred to the appropriate specialist and the Center requires a report from the specialist for a follow up. Upon reviewing the report, the director in her sole discretion will evaluate whether the Center can continue to provide services for such children, or not. If a follow up report is not submitted to the director, then it will be enough cause for termination.

- Violent, abusive and/or hyperactive behavior will also be referred to the appropriate specialist and follow up reporting will be required as specified above.
- Frequent disruptive behavior by a child which interferes with the staff's performance or the daily activities, will be enough cause for termination.
- Following are also causes for immediate termination:
 - Failure to uphold or not cooperating with the Center's policies.
 - Use of obscenities by the child or the parent/guardian.

- Rude or inappropriate conduct, behavior, or attitude directed at the Center, staff, or other clients/children by a child or parent/guardian.
- Failure to pay tuition within the required tuition due date and/or late tuition charges as per the Center's policy. When verbal reminder for tuition is not responded with payment within one day, it will be enough cause for termination.
- When parent/guardian does not follow up on the corrective action agreed upon at any conference.

Inappropriate behavior:

Inappropriate language, discriminatory and or derogatory comments by a child/parent is not tolerated in the school. Any child/parent found to be engaging in any verbal and or physical confrontation will be subject to immediate disciplinary action not withstanding suspension and or dismissal from the school. Kidsville U.S.A. reserves the right to terminate a child without prior notice, due to inappropriate behavior/language by the child/parent or if staff/children at the facility are threatened, put in danger or due to any safety violation by a child/parent. **Kidsville U.S.A. will not tolerate Bullying.**

Notes to the Office:

All messages that concern you or your child at school should be made in writing. Memorialization of the problem helps to keep reports and history accurate. It is not always easy to recall who said what to who and when unless it's in writing. Keeping us informed is greatly appreciated so that we can work together for the wellbeing of your child.

Please keep this handbook to review policies and procedures and thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide an excellent beginning to your child's learning experiences.

Parent Handbook Acknowledgement

I/we the undersigned parent(s)/Guardian of _____

Child's Name

Have received a copy of Kidsville U.S.A.'s Parent Handbook. I/we have read and understand the rules, policies and procedures as stated herein, and authorize Kidsville U.S.A. to act in accordance with these rules, policies, and procedures throughout my/our child's enrollment.

Your Child(ren's) place of Birth: _____

1. _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Social Security #

CA Driver's License #

2. _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Social Security #

CA Driver's License #

Please advise Kidsville U.S.A. if someone other than you will be responsible for tuition payments (e.g. CCRC, Gain, Net or another person).

_____ is responsible for payment and I understand all authorized forms verifying payments must be received by the director or administrator before my child begins school and that if payment by this third party is not made for any reason I will be responsible to the school for such payment.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature

Date