

Welcome to Primary!

“No greater responsibility can rest upon any man than to be a teacher of God’s children.” – David O. McKay

We are so grateful you’ve accepted the call to teach and minister to the children in Primary! You are helping them feel the love of the Savior and learn the gospel in a joyful and safe environment.

Responsibilities

- Protecting Children
 - Complete the Protecting Children and Youth online training within your first month of being sustained (ProtectingChildren.ChurchofJesusChrist.org)
 - Repeat this training every 3 years.
- Build Relationships
 - Show genuine interest in each child.
 - Help them feel valued and loved as children of God.
 - Be especially mindful of children who attend less often. Make sure they feel welcome and included.
- Be Prepared
 - Use church-approved materials:
 - “Come, Follow Me—For Primary” (ages 3–11)
 - “Behold Your Little Ones” (nursery)
 - Church magazines, scriptures, and official media
 - Come on time and stay with your class the entire Primary block.
- Arrange Substitutes
 - If you’ll be absent:
 - Try asking the parents of children in your class.
 - Use the substitute list provided by the Primary presidency.
 - If needed, contact the presidency for help.
 - Let the presidency know who your sub will be.



Classroom Guidelines

- Reverence
 - Help your class participate reverently, especially during singing time.
 - Sit near or move children if needed to encourage reverent behavior.
- Restroom Safety
 - Encourage parents to take children before Primary.
 - Teachers and leaders may not take children into the restroom.
 - Children must be taken by a parent or legal guardian.
 - The Primary presidency will be available in primary room to help with restroom needs.
- Child Dismissal
 - Children must be released only to a parent or a youth-aged sibling, unless otherwise arranged.

Supporting Children with Special Needs (Handbook 12.5.2)

- Every child deserves to be welcomed, included, and loved in Primary. Here are a few ways to support children with disabilities or special needs:
 - Learn about their specific needs by talking to parents.
 - Adapt activities to include everyone (e.g., using songs instead of pictures).
 - Use visual schedules and consistent routines to reduce anxiety.
 - Use visual cues to guide behavior.
 - Learn why challenging behavior happens; modify environments with love and prayerful support.
- For additional resources: disability.ChurchofJesusChrist.org

Nursery Safety

- Parents must fill out a Nursery Parent Form for each child (including visitors).
- Keep forms locked in the toy cabinet for easy access by subs.

Handbook Highlights

Please review the following sections for further clarification on your role.

- Purpose of Primary (12.1.1)
- Teacher Guidelines (12.3.5)
- Safeguarding Children (12.5.1)
- Role-Playing Guidelines (12.5.5)
- Additional Guidelines and Policies (12.5)

Let us know if you have questions—we're here to support you as you serve these precious children!

With love,

Your Primary Presidency

