

AC-T After School Club Handbook

2023-2024



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Mission Statement

The mission of AC-T After School Club is to provide reliable, quality child care services in an environment that nurtures and meets the individual needs of children and their families.

Goals

AC-T After School Club strives to be:

Reliable: We know parents of young children need to know that child care is available to them consistently during the work week.

Nurturing: We intend to provide a developmentally appropriate environment for young children that is safe, clean, and accepting of individual differences. We also intend to provide caregivers that engage the children in their care in meaningful interactions and activities after school.

Affordable: We understand that families need quality child care that is within their financial means. We strive to keep the cost of our service affordable while at the same time ensuring that we are able to compensate our care giving staff the wages they deserve.

Philosophy

AC-T After School Club exists to provide high quality childhood care and education to school- age children. Recognizing that a nurturing environment is vital, our staff works together to provide safe, healthy, and welcoming surroundings for children in their early years. The educational component of our programming is provided by using a balanced curriculum that supplies child-initiated/adult-initiated activities. The child's social, emotional, intellectual, and physical needs will be met on a developmentally appropriate level. We view quality childcare as a combination of care and education as both components are important to the development of the whole child.

Rights and Responsibilities

Children have a right to...

- Feel safe and loved.
- Explore their curiosities.
- Feel good about themselves as valuable and unique individuals.
- Engage in meaningful interactions with peers and adults.
- Enjoy age-appropriate activities.
- Express themselves through language, writing, movement, and creative use of materials and resources.
- Grow in decision making, problem solving, and creative thinking.
- Expect a comfortable and welcoming environment with personal space for their belongings.

Children are responsible for...

- Learning to accept responsibility for their actions and decisions.
- Respecting the rules of the program and the After School Club property.
- Treating the staff and their peers with respect at all times.

Parents have the right to...

- Know their child is in a secure, stimulating, nurturing environment.
- Ask questions of or share concerns with the Director or staff at any time.
- Know if their child is experiencing any difficulties or behavioral problems.
- To be part of the decision-making process regarding solutions to the problem.
- Expect confidentiality regarding any information that might be in after school care records or conveyed in private conversation between a parent and caregiver.
- Know if their child has been exposed to any contagious diseases.
- Unrestricted access to their child at all times.

Parents are responsible for...

- Communicating questions, concerns, or issues to your child's teacher or the Director. Providing clothing and supplies (labeled with your child's name) as needed.
- Signing children in and out each day
- Notifying the after school care in the case of late pick-up, after 5:00 PM.
- Notifying the after school care if your child is manifesting symptoms of a contagious disease. Keeping all your child's records at the after school care accurate and up-to-date.
- Paying all after school care bills on time

Programming and Staffing

Staffing Ratios/Supervision:

No child is ever left unsupervised inside or outside the After School club. Caregivers directly supervise all the children by sight and hearing at all times. According to state regulations and recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Public Health Association, the following caregiver to children ratios are observed at AC-T After School Club:

Age Caregiver: Children 4 year olds 1:12
5 year olds + 1:15

When there are mixed-age groups of children 4 years and older in the same room, the caregiver: child ratio will be consistent with the age of the majority of the children in the room. Each staff member is trained in CPR, First Aid, Universal Precautions, and as a Mandatory Reporter of Child Abuse or Neglect. Staff also receive continuing education in early childhood training through various workshops, seminars, in-services, staff meetings, and conferences throughout the year. We pride ourselves in providing a well-rounded and well- educated staff to care for your child.

Staff Training

New Staff Members

New staff will receive training as required by DHS. The following will be completed within the first six months of their employment:

- 1st Aid & CPR Certification
- Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting
- Universal Precautions (Blood Borne Pathogens)
- Orientation to Center Policies and Procedures & DHS Licensing Standards

Within the first year of employment, each staff member will receive an additional 6-10 hours of training in early childhood care and education, depending on whether they are part-time or full time employees. Every year thereafter, each staff member will receive an additional 4-6 hours of training.

Hours of Operation

The After School Club runs from 3:20 – 5:00 p.m., after school, Monday thru Friday on days when school is in session. AC-T After School Club is licensed to hold 24 children at one time.

After School Club Closing

The decision to close the after school club due to inclement weather will be made by the Director with input from the local school superintendent and other board members. Closing information will be placed on local radio stations such as KAYL, as well as local news stations such as KTIV. When school closes for inclement weather, after school club will not be open.

Admission/Enrollment and On-Going Requirements

AC-T After School Club enrolls school-age children without regard to race, culture, gender, religion, national origin, ancestry, income, or disability.

Prior to enrollment, new parents should meet with the Director to tour the facility and ask and answer questions. In addition, the following forms are required by the Department of Human Services and must be on file with the after school care before a child starts services:

- Registration Form
- Parental Emergency Consent
- Pick-up Authorization
- Photography/Video, field trips, OTC medication Release
- School Aged Children- Parent Statement Health Status (parents may fill out)
- Preferred provider information
- Statement of Health (Copy of Immunizations kept on file at school.)
- Child Health Form (signed from a physician within the past 6 months)
- Policy Agreement (last page of the Parent Manual)
- ECACFP Allergy/Food Exception Sheet

All forms and physicals must be updated yearly. The Director will inform you of when these will be due. Immunizations must also be updated as children receive them. Other forms not required by DHS but helpful to our staff may also be necessary. Enrollment information and forms submitted are confidential and accessible only to the Center's Administrative staff and the after school club licensing official.

Accommodations for Special Needs

When the parent of a child identifies that a child has special needs, the Director and the parent will meet to review the child's care requirements. AC-T After School Club will enroll a child with special needs as long as a safe, supportive environment can be provided for the child. The Center will attempt to accommodate children with special needs consistent with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If AC-T After School Club is unable to accommodate the child's needs as defined by the child's health provider or the Individual Family Service Plan/Individual Education Plan without posing an undue burden as defined by federal law, the Center's Director will work with the parent to find an alternative, suitable childcare environment for the child.

Arrival and Departure Procedures

Children may not be picked up at the door, and should be picked up from the classroom by an adult. Parents must designate, in writing, on the Pick-Up Authorization Form, who is allowed to pick up the child from the Center. The staff will not release the child to anyone without written notification or a phone call and approval. In the case of a parent having resisted custody, we are required to have a copy of the court order stating the restrictions in the child's file to ensure our ability to enforce that order.

Disenrollment Policy

Please be aware that should one of the following situations arise, AC-T After School Club may ask a parent to dis-enroll their child.

1. Failure to keep account up to date. Current balance sheets will be emailed/handed out weekly. After school club bills are due on the 20th of each month. Services will be discontinued if the account is largely in the hole and several attempts to notify you of this deficit have gone unanswered.
2. Verbal or physical abuse by a child to other children or to staff. A child's language or behavior that is hurtful to others such as profanity, using sexual language, humiliating, attacking or injuring others, throwing rocks, furniture, toys, etc. is inappropriate and unacceptable. If a child should display such behavior, an Incident Report will be written and the Director will review it with the parent to identify a possible solution.
3. If a child bites another child. If a child bites, we will develop a plan with the parent

to try and correct the behavior. AC-T After School Club may ask a parent to temporarily dis-enroll their child if the biting is aggressive and does not lessen within a reasonable amount of time (maximum of 10 bites in 3 weeks).

4. Non-compliance with the policies set forth in this Parent Handbook. It is the responsibility of the parent to comply with and respect our policies. If there is a policy that a parent has questions or concerns with please contact the Director to discuss it. Policies are designed and implemented in order to offer high quality care for the child and some are not negotiable.

Billing and Payment Collection

Hours of Operation:

- The child care center is available throughout the school year, Monday-Friday, on days when school is scheduled to be in session for school age children.

Afternoons: 3:20 PM – 5:00 PM.

- Children will be fed a snack shortly after arriving at the center. At this time, there is no charge for the afternoon snack.
- A rate of **\$2.50 per hour** will be charged per student attending after school club.

Billing:

- Bills will be emailed/sent home with the child weekly. Payment is expected on or before the 20th of the month. In order to keep the cost low, any child picked up after 5:00 p.m. will be charged a convenience fee of \$5.00.
- Account summaries will be provided at any time upon request, or a current balance can be checked by calling the school at 712-843-5416.
- Funds may be left with Kim Ellrich, at the school, or in the evenings at the child care center.

Meals and Snacks:

Snack menus are posted on the Parent Information area located near the sign-in/sign-out sheets in the main entrance.

Parent Communication:

Parents are welcome to participate in our program. Please remember that our Center has an “open door policy” and unless denied access by a court order, you are welcome to be here at any time of the day.

Notices of policies, meetings, and exposure to communicable diseases are posted on a wall near the main entrance of after school club.

If the need arises, a one-on-one conference with caregivers or the Director can be scheduled at any time. In addition, parents are welcome to stop in the Director’s office any time the door is open.

Curriculum

Just as schools use different curriculums to teach different subjects, there are a variety of early childhood curriculums Center staff can purchase and/or receive training in. At this time AC-T After School Club uses a balanced curriculum that supplies child-initiated/adult initiated activities. These activities will involve art, music, drama, science, math, large and small motor development, literacy, and language. The child’s social, emotional, intellectual, and physical needs will be met on a developmentally appropriate level.

Outdoor Play

Outdoor play is a regular part of each day, weather conditions permitting. Caregivers usually take the children outside. The weather conditions are monitored using the Child Care Weather Watch to determine wind chill factor or heat index so unless conditions are

dangerous all children over the age of two will play outdoors on a daily basis. All children should come with appropriate outdoor play clothing. It is the parent's responsibility to label and have the proper outerwear available each day. If a child is well enough to be in attendance in the Center, he/she is well enough to play outdoors.

Multicultural and Religious Awareness Policy

AC-T After School Club reinforces an awareness and pride in multicultural heritage and various religious backgrounds in the world around us. As incidents happen in which questions arise on these subjects we will create the teachable moment. Examples of this would be "Why are they a different color?" or "What is Hanukkah?" We will provide a curriculum that will offer a variety of multicultural experiences through books, puzzles, music, crafts, and other visual items in the environment. If anyone is interested in volunteering their time to share any cultural backgrounds or knowledge with the children, we would be more appreciative to you offering this learning experience to the children. This could be preparing a food that the children could try, reading a book about your culture, learning a few new words of your language, sharing family traditions, etc. Please speak with the classroom's lead teacher or the Director if you are interested.

Daily Schedule of Activities

3:20-3:30

**Sign in/wash hands
Look at books or color**

3:30-3:40

Read Aloud

3:40-4:15

Centers & Clean up

4:15-4:30

Recess – Imagination Playground, New Gym, or Playground

4:30-4:35

**Bathroom
Wash Hands**

4:35-4:45

Snack

4:45-5:00

Free Choice

Accidents, Injuries, and Emergencies

When an accident or injury occurs, a caregiver will administer the appropriate First Aid and TLC. A First Aid Kit is kept in the filing cabinet labeled with the First Aid sign. This kit is also taken to the playground and/or on field trips. Any accident or injury that occurs at AC-T After School Club is documented on our accident/injury report by the staff member who witnessed the incident. A copy of the report is shared with the child's parents and then the report is kept in the child's file. If requested, a copy will be given to the parent or guardian.

Illness and Medications

Health providers agree that one of the best ways to prevent the spread of germs is frequent hand washing. We require that all staff and children wash their hands when they arrive at the Center, and we direct the children to wash their hands frequently throughout the day.

AC-T After School Club is not equipped to care properly for children who are sick. Please be aware and make your supervisor aware that there may be times when you need to pick up a sick child and take him/her home. Please arrange for family members or friends to be available to care for

your child in the case that you cannot leave work.

The decision to send a sick child home will be based on the severity of the illness and whether there are adequate resources and staff to meet the needs of both the sick child and the other children in the group. When a child becomes sick during after school care, the Center staff, not the child's parents, will make the final determination about whether a child must be sent home. When you are notified by a Center staff member that your child is sick, you must make arrangements for the child to be picked up.

Our top priority in cases of illness is the sick child and the other children in the group. Our desire is to cooperate with parents so sick children can be cared for as well as possible and heal as quickly as possible.

If a child at the Center has been diagnosed with a communicable disease, an anonymous notice will be posted, informing all families of their child's exposure to the disease. In cases of serious illness, notices will be sent home.

Sick children should not be in after school care if...

- They have had one or more of the following symptoms in the past 24 hours:
 - A temperature of 100 degrees or higher
 - More than two instances of diarrhea that cannot be contained in the child's diaper or that causes an "accident" in the child's underwear
 - More than one vomiting episode
 - Sore, red, discharging eyes
 - An undiagnosed rash accompanied by fever, itching, or other discomfort
 - The child's illness and lethargy leave him/her unable to participate comfortably in the activities the Center routinely offers for children who are well.
 - The sick child requires more care than the staff is able to provide without compromising the needs of the other children in the group.
 - The child is contagious and poses an undue risk to either the child or the children and staff with whom the child will interact.

Mildly sick children may participate in the After School club if...

- They have been free from the symptoms listed about for 24 hours (fever free/no Tylenol).
- They have been on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- A health care provider note indicates the child is cleared to participate in after school care.
- They are only mildly ill and can comfortably participate in the Center's activities.
- Their illness is not contagious.

What to do if your child is sick: If your child becomes sick during after school club, a staff member will call you at work. You must make arrangements for your child to be picked up, and you must keep your child out of the Center for at least 24 hours.

Also, let the Director know if your child has a contagious illness so caregivers can watch for symptoms among the other children.

Hand Washing

AC-T After School Club complies with the nationally recommended standards of the U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, American Public Health, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The guidelines were developed with the goal of

implementing hand washing and sanitization procedures into the daily routines of the children and staff to control the spread of disease and infection. Children need to learn good health habits and this is taught by imitating.

Children AND staff are required to wash their hands multiple times throughout the day:

1. After toileting or diapering.
2. Before and after meals and snacks.
3. After playing outside.
4. Before and after messy play.
5. After handling or cleaning up bodily fluids.
6. After handling pets and other animals or any other material that might be contaminated by contact with animals.
7. Before and after feeding a child.
8. When entering after school care.
9. Before and after administering medicine.
10. After handling garbage or cleaning.

Hand washing is very important for our children and staff. All must lather with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before rinsing off and turning off water with a paper towel.

AC-T After School Club REQUIRE staff to wear gloves when dealing with a blood-borne pathogen situation. Staff still are required to wash hands after removing gloves.

Distribution of Medications

The staff will not administer medication to children in the Center. With the short amount of time the after school club is run, medications will be given by AC-T school staff.

Behavior Management and Discipline

At AC-T After School Club, we want children to...

- See themselves as valuable and unique individuals
- Express strong emotions in ways that do not hurt others.
- Learn to make appropriate decisions and solve problems
- Become aware of the feelings and viewpoints of others.
- Work cooperatively and collaboratively, accepting others' beliefs, feelings, and needs

The staff at AC-T After School Club strives to...

- Work together to create an environment that encourages each child to develop at his/her individual pace.
- Be positive caregivers and role models.
- Design their curriculum to the attention span, learning styles and family background of each child
- Arrange classrooms so children's activities are productive
- Use a variety of guidance and discipline techniques when interacting with the children in their care.

To ensure that AC-T After School Club is a safe, hospitable, and nurturing environment for all the children and the staff, caregivers will equitably use positive guidance, redirection, planning ahead to prevent problems, encouragement of appropriate behavior, consistent clear rules, and involving children in problem solving to foster the child's own ability to

become self-disciplined. When the child understands language, discipline will be explained to the child before and at the time of any disciplinary action. Caregivers will encourage children to respect other people, to be fair, respect property, and learn to be responsible for their actions.

Caregivers will guide children to develop self-control and orderly conduct in relationship to peers and adults. Aggressive physical behavior toward staff or children is unacceptable. Caregivers will intervene immediately when a child becomes physically aggressive to protect all of the children and encourage more acceptable behavior. Caregivers will use discipline that is consistent, clear, and understandable.

Methods of Discipline

For acts of aggression and fighting (i.e. biting, hitting, etc.) staff will set appropriate expectations for children and guide them in solving problems. This positive guidance will be the usual technique for managing children with challenging behaviors rather than punishing them for having problems they have not yet learned to solve.

In addition, staff may:

- Separate the children involved.
- Immediately comfort the child who was injured.
- Care for any injury suffered by the victim involved in the incident.
- Notify parents of children involved in the incident.
- Review the adequacy of caregiver supervision, appropriateness of Center activities, and initiate corrective action if there is a recurrence.
- Physical restraint will not be used except as necessary to ensure a child's safety or that of others, and then in the form of holding by another person as gently as possible only for as long as is necessary for control of the situation. Caregivers will never use physical punishment or abusive language.

The following is a list of the prohibitive disciplines found on page 140 of the DHS Licensing Standards:

- Corporal punishment including spanking, shaking, and slapping.
- Punishment which is humiliating or frightening or which causes pain or discomfort to the child. Children shall never be locked in a room, closet, box or other device. Mechanical restraints shall never be used as a form of discipline. When restraints are part of a treatment plan for a child with a disability authorized by the parent and a psychologist or psychiatrist, staff shall receive training on the safe and appropriate use of the restraint.
- Punishment or threat of punishment associated with a child's illness, lack of progress in toilet training, or in connection with food or rest.
- No child shall be subjected to verbal abuse, threats, or derogatory remarks about the child or the child's family.

Medicines or drugs that affect behavior will not be used except as prescribed by a child's health care provider and with specific written instructions from the child's health care provider for use of the medicine.

Time-outs: Time-out will be used in specific circumstances to allow a child to have an opportunity to calm down and think about the consequences of their actions. Time-outs also give your child's caregiver time to reflect and get a perspective on the child's behavior. We try not to overuse time-outs. For some children, they are not effective, even when used minimally.

When caregivers use time-outs, they will use the terms “thinking chair” or “thinking spot”. Caregivers will explain to the child the reason he or she is being removed from play.

Biting

It can be quite a shock to find out that your child has been bitten by or has bitten another child. Caregivers try to use biting prevention strategies such as eliminating stressors like crowded play areas, inconsistent routines or lack of rest. An interesting play environment also keeps children involved, so situations that lead to biting are minimized. The Center provides an adequate number of staff who can readily respond to the particular needs of each child.

When a child is bitten:

1. A caregiver intervenes immediately to separate the biter from the bitten child, and the child who was bitten is helped immediately. We will apply ice to the bite if the child will allow it. If the skin is broken, we will clean the site and apply First Aid.
2. When the bitten child has been cared for and calmed down, the caregiver talks to the child who did the biting. When two or more staff members are present, the second and third step can occur simultaneously.
3. Parents of the bitten child are notified with an incident report. The name of the child who did the biting is kept confidential.
4. The caregiver reflects on the situation to determine what can be changed to keep the biter from doing it again.
5. **The child who is the biter will also have an incident report.**

When a child bites, the parents will be informed personally and privately on the day of the incident. If your child seems to be developing a chronic biting problem (repeated biting over several weeks, we will develop a plan of specific strategies, techniques, and timelines to address the behavior. We will never employ any technique that harms a child or is known to be ineffective.

Suspected Child Abuse

The health and safety of our children is one of our top priorities. All observations or suspicions of child abuse or neglect by any caregiver will be immediately reported to the Department of Human Services or the local Police Department.

Emergency Plans

AC-T After School Club has written emergency plans in place for fire and severe weather. The Center’s emergency procedures and evacuation routes are posted in every occupied program area.

Fire Plan The Center’s fire alarms are tested annually and fire drills are performed monthly. In the case of a building fire, the children will be escorted outside and then, if the weather is inclement, to the nearby School.

Snow/Ice Storms Snow or ice storms may result in the closing of the Center at any time of day. After school care closing announcements will be placed on the radio such as KAYL, and local TV such as KTIV. When those announcements are made, please pick up your children as soon as possible so our caregiving staff, especially those who live out of town, can get home safely. If the weather keeps you from being able to get to the Center to pick up your child, a caregiver will remain with your child at the Center until a family member or friend can pick up the child. If it is possible weather could strand you out of town, please plan ahead for a substitute to pick up your child.

Severe Thunderstorms/Tornado Watches and Warnings In the case of severe thunderstorms and tornado watches and warnings, should the siren sound, the children are quickly escorted to the lower level of the school building. Parents should not drive to the Center in the midst of severe weather. The staff and children perform a tornado drill monthly.

Intoxicated driver or parent In the event of an intoxicated parent, if a caregiver feels a child is in imminent danger, child protection laws require us to report to the police. If in the caregiver's opinion, the parent is unable to transport the child safely, she/he shall immediately notify the Director/On-Site Supervisor.

The Director will then try to convince the parent not to transport the child. The Director will offer to call someone else from the emergency number file to transport the child for the parent. If the parent refuses to agree and insists on leaving with the child, the Director will call the police and report the driver of the car to be intoxicated or unsafe.

Power outages or Loss of water In the case of a power outage or loss of water lasting more than one hour, parents will be contacted to pick up their children.

Missing or Abducted child In the event that a child is lost or abducted, the Director/On-Site Supervisor shall be immediately notified. The caregiver or Director will then call 911 to reach the police department to notify them of the situation giving any available information regarding description or circumstances surrounding the disappearance. The Director/On-Site Supervisor will then notify the parents to make them aware of the situation. If the child is lost or has run away from the Center, any available staff shall remain searching for the child while still maintaining staff ratios.

Unauthorized person/intruder in the building When an unauthorized person/intruder is present, the staff shall observe the situation to determine if this person poses any threat to the children. If the staff feels there is a potential for danger, she/he should immediately gather the children together to re-enter the building if they are outside. If someone has entered the building, the teacher should direct this person to the office for help, continuing to observe that the person goes where directed and receives the proper guidance. If the person is not welcome but refuses to leave, inform that person that the police will be called. Never let a child leave with an unauthorized person/intruder. The children should be reminded to never speak to a stranger and to go directly to a teacher if someone should ever approach them.

Earthquake, Flood, Bomb Threat or Structural Disaster In the event of an earthquake, flood, bomb threat or other structural disaster that could create structural damage to the child care facility or pose a threat to the health of the children, the staff shall implement the Evacuation Procedure. The caregiver or Director shall bring the attendance record and emergency cards. The caregiver will account for each child before leaving the site. Once at the designated spot, parents will be notified by phone and through the media to pick up their children at this alternate location. In the case of a bomb threat, 911 shall be called and the police notified from this alternate location.

Chemical Spills In the event of a chemical spill, our Center will follow the recommendations of the notifying authority. If the children need to leave the area, parents will be notified through phone calls and the media to pick up their children, attendance sheets and parent emergency information numbers will be taken by the caregiver. Staff shall remain with the children until the parents pick them up. Ratios shall be maintained.

Visitors and Access

Parents who want to visit their children at the Center may do so at any time of day and for any reason. Other adult family members also may visit your children at the Center. When extended family will be visiting the Center, please give the staff a courtesy call or note before the visit occurs to explain who will be visiting and when. In the case of divorce or separation, both parents may visit their child at the Center. Parents who want to restrict the access of a divorced or separated spouse from the Center must obtain a court order. Other visitors to the Center must sign in at the Office to identify themselves and explain their purpose for visiting the Center. If a visitor will not identify him/herself or arouses any suspicion, the police will be called to escort the visitor out of the Center. Anyone required to register on the sex offender registration must meet with the Director to establish an individualized written agreement.

Smoking

AC-T After School Club and the Center's playground is a smoke-free environment.

Daily Cleaning Policies

1. Bleach water spray is to be made daily in a labeled spray bottle. Bleach bottles need to be emptied and rinsed out nightly. Spray bottles need to be labeled "Bleach Spray" and "1 TBSP to 1 QT."
2. Bleach Spray bottles need to be kept away from children at all times.
3. Sinks are required to be washed and sprayed with bleach water throughout the day.
4. Tables and high chairs will be washed with soap and water and then sprayed with bleach water IMMEDIATELY before and after every meal, snack, art, messy play, etc.
5. Anytime that bleach spray is used it can be left to air dry or wiped dry after sitting for two minutes.
6. Toys that have been in a child's mouth or that have been contaminated by bodily fluids will be removed after the child is done with it then put in a container to be sanitized.
7. When toys are being rotated they will be sanitized before and after entering a room. Any toys that are broken will be thrown away.
8. Machine washable toys will be washed and sanitized daily.
9. Indoor toys will not be shared with another room until they are sanitized.

Confidentiality

AC-T After School Club respects the rights of each family to have privacy and confidentiality regarding all health, behavioral, and developmental records and information concerning their child. Any employee, parent or person associated with AC-T After School Club who acquires information regarding a child or an employee, shall not directly or indirectly disclose information except upon inquiry before a court of law or with written consent from this person or the child's guardian.

It is extremely important to protect the confidentiality of any information concerning children and their families. Staff will maintain a professional attitude and show respect to the children by refraining from talking about or labeling a child negatively or positively, in front of them or their peers.

It is also important that the parents do not ask questions to the staff or children about issues that we are not to comment on or about others. No information about any particular child shall be shared with another child's parent. Staff and Parents may become close, and parents of one child may work with another parent from the center, please refrain from discussing specific situations about others at the center. Examples of this would be; asking "Who has pink eye in my child's room?" if a communicable disease notice is posted, "Who is the biter?", or discussing other personal issues. It is important that we all respect the privacy of all the families and staff here at the center.

Pet Policy

We encourage the children to experience a variety of animals, learn about them, and care for them. It is important that if you are aware of your child having an allergy to any animals that you inform the Director. The center may, at times, have their own pet to take care of or have visitors bring them in. All animals requiring shot records, including rabies vaccinations, are required to be kept on file at the center. We do not have or allow any reptiles, amphibians, or birds of the parrot family (parrots, cockatiels, parakeets), which can carry bacteria that can cause serious illness in humans. All areas where pets have been will be cleaned and disinfected with bleach spray. Teachers and children are required to wash hands before and after handling or caring for any pets.

Access Policy

Parents Parents have unrestricted access to their children as long as their child is in attendance at the center.

Visitors Visitors to the center must give prior notification to the center Director if they have an interest in visiting the center. Visitors will NOT be allowed to be in any child occupied area without direct staff supervision.

Sex Offenders Individuals that have children attending the center and that are required to register on the Sex Offender Registry must meet with the center Director to establish an individualized written agreement regarding access to the center.

**AC-T After School Club PARENT
CONCERNS/COMPLAINT FORM**

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Work/Other Phone _____

Child's Legal Parent/Guardian _____ Community Member _____
Other (Please describe) _____

Child's Name (if applicable) _____

Nature of complaint. Please explain and describe the incident(s) in detail and Attach to this form.
Cite times, dates, witnesses, and events. What Corrective action would you like to see taken
regarding this complaint?

(Add pages if necessary)

Signature of Complainant _____

Date _____

Center Director _____

Date _____

**AC-T After School Club
Policy Agreement**

My child _____ will be attending AC-T After School Club.

I _____ have read the parent handbook and agree to follow all of the rules, policies, and responsibilities that have been laid out in the handbook. If I have any questions I will contact the director.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Director Signature _____

Date _____