



# Little Acorns Daycare

PO Box 665

Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328

Joy Merrihew - Director

Ph: (570) 828-7819

A Ministry of Praise & Mercy Fellowship

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Welcome to Little Acorns Daycare! I am pleased that you chose us as your 'home away from home'. We have been serving our local community for 8 years. The safety and education of your children are our highest priorities.

As you navigate your way through the many pages that follow, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your little ones.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy Merrihew".

Joy Merrihew  
Director of Little Acorns Daycare

Admission is open to all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

### Separation...

Children often separate from parents, yet some take a little extra time to adjust to being without a parent at the beginning. After the first day, it often helps to depart quickly, assuring the child that you will be seeing them soon. Children who cry upon arrival usually stop shortly. Should your child be unhappy, he will be comforted until he is ready to engage in an activity which will take his mind off himself. In the event the child cries for a prolonged period; and there is a problem, we will call you. This is usually not necessary as the children are naturally attracted to the materials and activities going on. If your child appears to need support, it suggested that the parent stay awhile for reassurance. Parents are encouraged to talk in a happy and positive way about their leaving and assure them of their return later.

We realize that difficulties could exist during these first few weeks. We understand any anxiety and encourage you to call if you have any questions during this time or any time in the future. If a child is still experiencing anxiety after a few weeks, we will want to discuss it with you to evaluate the situation.

If your child has been without you, it would be well to make arrangements to leave him with friends or babysitter now and then he will get used to being away a bit and learn that he will see you again.

### Some Suggestions...

Please develop the attitude that our center is a happy place and that the teachers are friends. Avoid using them as a threat with remarks such as "You better not do that at Little Acorns" or "Don't let your teacher see you do that," etc.

Dress your child in simple and comfortable clothes. Clothes should be washable and easy for the child to handle, especially in the bathroom. Play clothes are fine. Please encourage him to put on and take off his outer clothing and hang it on a hook by himself. All outer garments (including hats, mittens, boots, etc.) should be plainly marked with the child's name. This is very important. (Unmarked clothing can cause difficulties, especially when there may be the same kinds of jackets present.) It is helpful when shoelaces are tied in double knots. (Smocks for painting are provided by the school). Sneakers or shoes with rubber soles are advised. Party shoes and slip-ons are not safe for our climbing equipment and running.

Our DISCIPLINE POLICY is found outside all classrooms. You may request your own copy of it at any time.

### Concerning Bathroom Procedure:

Please help your child be independent when going to the bathroom (such as: using toilet tissue properly, pulling up and fastening clothing and washing hands.)

ANY MEDICAL FORMS STILL OUTSTANDING SHOULD BE MAILED IMMEDIATELY TO:

Little Acorns Daycare  
P.O. 665  
Dingmans Ferry, PA 18337

TO HELP US MAINTAIN A HEALTHY SCHOOL, for all children, please observe these regulations:

1. If you suspect the onset of a contagious disease or if your child has an infectious cold please play it safe and keep him home for at least 24 hours.(The first few days of a cold are considered infectious.) If he has a communicable disease, kindly call us the same day you discover the illness; i.e. conjunctivitis, impetigo, strep throat, chicken pox, head lice, etc.
2. If your child has a fever, do not send him back until he has had a normal temperature for 24 hours.
3. If your child has a rash, please keep him home 24 hours to see if it develops into something else.
4. Chicken Pox- Child must be kept home until scabs are completely dry.
5. Please call if your child has an extended illness.
6. Once your child is symptom-free, or a physician indicates that the child poses no serious health risk to either himself or to the other children, the child may return to school.
7. We do not go outdoors in bad weather. However, please realize that all staff members are needed on the playground to supervise, and we cannot leave a child indoors by himself in the event you feel your child should not go outdoors.

#### Television Viewing:

We hope you monitor your child's T.V. viewing. Children who watch aggressive-type shows may act out negative behavior either at home or the classroom (such as pretending toys are weapons, attempting to behave aggressively, etc.)

#### Birthdays

We will celebrate each child's birthday on his own birthday. (If it falls on a weekend, it will be celebrated on the school day closest to the actual birth date.) You may send in one item for snack for all children that day. Suggestions include, but are not limited to, Jell-o in individual paper cups, or ice cream cups. Just one item please- not paper products or favors. Please do not send in a cake or cupcakes. Kindly check with the staff (preferably two weeks in advance) regarding the date and what you plan to bring. The child will be given special privileges and jobs on his birthday. Summer birthdays will be celebrated.

#### Snacks

Daily snacks are provided by the school. We serve juice and healthy snacks. If the child has a food allergy, please call it to our attention.



Sharing Your Talents:

If you have an occupation(i.e. nurse, fireman, policeman, etc.), hobby, play an instrument or would like to teach something which you would be willing to share with the children during the day, please let us know. Also, you would perhaps like to read a story, prepare the snack, or play a game. You may even stay to observe if you choose.

Car Pools/ Authorized Persons To Pick Up Your Child

If you are involved in a car pool, kindly inform us by a signed RELEASE AUTHORIZATION FORM who is authorized to pick up your child. These forms will be available the first day of school. If someone other than the parents or an authorized person is sent to the center to pick up the child, be sure to **notify the school of that person's arrival in writing.**

Children may be released only the child's custodial parent or person(s) authorized by the custodial parent to take the child from school and assume responsibility for the child in an emergency if the custodial parent cannot be reached. The custodial parent will provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers of any person(s) other than themselves whom are authorized to transport their child from the center.

If parents are legally separated or divorced, the school requires written permission from the custodial parent as to the rights of the non- custodial parent to visit or pick up the child from the center, including the name, address and phone number of the non-custodial parent. We request a copy of the court order if a parent is **specifically not allowed to pick up or visit the child.**