

FIRST BAPTIST

ROOTED ENRICHMENT

*Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him.
Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught,
and you will overflow with thankfulness.*

Colossians 2:7

Student Handbook

Dear Rooted Enrichment Families,

On behalf of the Rooted Enrichment staff at First Baptist Church Hendersonville, I am happy to welcome you to the 2024-25 school year! We are looking forward to working with and getting to know each and every family. We recognize that in order to be successful, our children benefit from the support of both the parent and the enrichment teacher.

As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's experience by ensuring the understanding of the policies that are presented in the following pages. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding protocols related to Rooted's expectations for a safe and productive school year. This handbook is intended to cover most of the policies and expectations for the school year. Please understand that in a rapidly changing world, not every policy situation can be anticipated. We learn new things often, and we will edit our work to continue to meet the expectations of Rooted. Updates to this handbook will be emailed and distributed to all parents as needed. If you have any questions about the policies and procedures, please feel free to contact me or discuss them with your child's teacher.

The Rooted Enrichment staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this church family and welcome you to it. We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you when school begins.

Blessings,

Shannon Gilmore, Director of Rooted Enrichment

615-447-1390 (Main) • 615-447-1392 (Direct) • sgilmore@fbchtn.org

Spiritual Foundation / Statement of Faith

We Believe Statement

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Full statement of faith can be found at <https://fbchville.com/whatwebelieve/>

Mission Statement / Program Overview

Rooted Enrichment seeks to provide biblical community, support, and intentional opportunities, within an enrichment program, for families who have chosen to educate their children at home.

Rooted Enrichment uses a Bible-based curriculum that supports the values and beliefs of First Baptist Church Hendersonville (FBCH).

Rooted Enrichment of FBCH will always consider a person's biological sex to be their assigned gender for the purposes of ministry placement.

Rooted Enrichment seeks to provide an environment that promotes intentional learning experiences to promote educational and social development through the lens of scripture.

Operations

Grades:

Kindergarten - 8th grade

Classes for the 2024/2025 school year are listed as follows. Class divisions are subject to change during open enrollment.

Kindergarten

1st grade

2nd grade

3rd grade

4th & 5th grade

6th ,7th & 8th grade

Day and Hours:

August 8, 2024, to May 15, 2025 on Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Open House / Meet the teachers	TBD (mid-July)
First Day Fall Semester	August 8, 2024
Fall Break	October 10, 2024
Thanksgiving Break	November 28, 2024
Christmas Breakfast	December 12, 2024
Christmas Break	December 19, 2024- January 2, 2025
Second Semester Begins	January 9, 2025
Living History Exhibition	February 27, 2025
Registration Begins for Existing Families	February 24, 2025
Registration Begins for New Families	March 3, 2025
Spring Break	March 13, 2025
Student Pictures	April 3, 2025 (rain date April 10)
Field Day at Vanderpool Farm	May 1, 2025 (Back-up May 8)
Kindergarten Graduation	May 12, 2025
End of Year Performance	May 15, 2025
Last Day of Semester	May 15, 2025

Closures, and Inclement Weather:

Rooted Enrichment follows the Sumner County School calendar. Weather and illness closings will be announced through Rooted Enrichment’s Facebook page and via email and text. If schools are closed for holidays, breaks, or canceled due to inclement weather or illness Rooted Enrichment will also be closed. If Sumner County Schools open **1 hour late**, Rooted Enrichment **will open 1 hour late @ 10:00 am**. If Sumner County Schools open **2 hours late**, Rooted Enrichment **will open 2 hours late @ 11:00 am**.

Inclement weather days will be credited to your account toward the May tuition, at a rate of \$20.00 per day.

Tuition & Registration

Registration

Open enrollment dates will be announced on the website along with registration information, fees, and tuition updates. The student’s enrollment is secure once the registration packet has been received by the program along with the registration fee. Incoming Kindergarten students must be age 5 by August 15th in order to register for our program.

Materials Fee:

\$80.00 for the first child. Second child \$70 with sibling discount. Third and subsequent children \$60 with sibling discounts.

Tuition:

\$800/year or \$80/month for 10 months

Full tuition is due on the first day of each month and will be considered late if not received by the 10th. Invoices will be sent via email the first day of each month. You may pay online (preferred method) or in person with cash or check. Checks should be made to First Baptist Church Hendersonville with Rooted Enrichment on the memo line only. Payments will not be given to the teacher directly.

If tuition is past due for two consecutive months, the student(s) will not be able to return to Rooted until the past due and current month’s tuition is paid. Paying only the past due amount is not sufficient for continued attendance. Please communicate any difficult circumstances that may arise to the director. We understand that extenuating circumstances occur, but a lack of communication with the director will be taken into consideration for continued participation and/or re-enrollment the following school year. In order to offer the quality experience Rooted strives to provide, we require that tuition be kept up to date.

Refund / Cancellation Policy:

There are no refunds for absences/illnesses/vacations/withdrawals.

Class Supply:

A list of needed classroom items will be given to parents and students at the Open House. All supplies should be brought to class on the first day.

Waitlist Policy:

In the event a desired class is full, students will be placed on a waitlist in the order their registration packet has been received. Families will be notified when a spot becomes available. You will have 48 hours to respond before your spot is offered to the next family on the waitlist. The waitlist will close the week prior to the announcement of the following school year registration dates.

Communication

Rooted Enrichment utilizes Facebook, text message, and email for communication. General program specifics can be found at FBCHville.com/rooted or by contacting the director via phone or email.

Monthly newsletters will be provided at the start of each month and sent home with students in their designated class folder. Special events will be communicated in the monthly newsletter as well as an email sent home to each family.

In the event of inclement weather, we will communicate program closings on Rooted Enrichment's Facebook page, via email and text.

Parents may communicate with their child's teachers directly for absences. In the event of an emergency, the director should be contacted first.

Curriculum

Rooted Enrichment is an enrichment program that seeks to provide a biblical worldview on grade level activities including but not limited to: memory work, math, reading, and writing. Students will be given the opportunity to work both independently and with classmates on projects and presentations that incorporate biblically sound science and historical topics.

A monthly newsletter specific to each class will be sent home outlining learning goals and scripture memory for each month. All curriculum will be reviewed by the Director and Board of Advisors each year and may be reassessed and changed.

Electronic and Digital Media:

The teacher's use of electronic media in the classroom will be limited to those that only support the curriculum topics. All media will be submitted for approval to the Director and/or Board of Advisors prior to being shown in class.

Class Parties:

Teachers may opt to have classroom parties such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Valentine's Day as well as birthday celebrations.

Diverse Learning Abilities

Rooted Enrichment seeks to create community and promote each student's individual educational and social needs through understanding and acceptance in Christ Jesus. However, all students must be able to participate in physical, academic, and social activities similar to their aged-matched peers. Rooted Enrichment is unable to accommodate unique physical, educational, or social needs.

Drop-off / Pickup**Morning Drop Off:**

Parents and students may only enter the building using the "Kids" entrance on the front side of FBCH. For any parents who have students in the WEE program at FBCH, you will not be able to enter Rooted Enrichment through the building. Rather, you will need to drive around to the front of the building to enter the appropriately designated doors. Doors open at 8:55 am and drop off begins at 9:00 a.m. From 9:00-9:30 students will be engaged in center work. Class will officially begin at 9:30.

- Kindergarten - 5th grade students:
 - During the month of August, all students must be escorted and checked in by an adult using the electronic check-in system. Students will not be required to wear their tag during class. It is only used for attendance purposes.
 - Beginning in September, 3rd - 5th grade students will be allowed to walk in alone as long as they are able to check themselves in unassisted. They are not allowed to check-in younger siblings in grades K-2nd grade.
- 6th - 8th grade students:
 - Students may enter the building on their own and immediately report to their classroom after using the electronic check-in system.

Late Arrival:

All students arriving after 9:30 a.m. will need to be escorted into the building by an adult. Please contact the director to gain access into the building. Chapel is from 10:00 - 10:30 a.m each Thursday. Please avoid drop off during this time, as the director or a teacher may not be available to let you in the building while they are participating in chapel.

Afternoon Pick Up:

Dismissal begins promptly at 2:30 p.m. at the Weekley Building roundabout. Please follow the car rider traffic flow outline.

All students, Kindergarten - 8th grade will be picked up via car rider line. Each family will be given a placard that must be displayed in the vehicle before a student can leave. Students will wait with their class until their name is called. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the child's teacher if their child will be picked up by an approved emergency contact listed on their registration packet.

Late Pick Up

Students remaining after 2:30 at the end of the car rider line will stay with the director, and a late pick-up fee of \$5 per child per occurrence will be applied accordingly and is due with the next month's tuition.

Emergency Pick Up

In the case of an emergency, a student may be picked up early by a parent or approved emergency contact as listed on the child's registration packet. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure emergency contact information is up to date. If the pickup is done by someone other than a parent, a photo ID and verified phone number will be required for pick up. Emergency pickup must be communicated to Rooted Enrichment's Director and not the student's teacher.

Security**Parking and Entrance During School Hours**

Doors to the building at the "Kids" entrance are open from **8:55 a.m.– 9:30 a.m.** for drop off and **2:15 p.m.– 2:45 p.m.** for early pick up. At all other times, admittance into the building is only allowed via our Director. Rooted Enrichment doors are locked each day from the hallway during school. Parking for parents is available outside of the "Kids" entrance of the church.

Background Checks

Keeping your child safe is a priority at FBCH. Your understanding and adherence are both expected and appreciated. All of our employees have been thoroughly vetted with screening, a background check, and training. Volunteers must meet FBCH standards and will have a background check completed prior to serving in the program.

Emergency Preparedness

Rooted Staff have undergone training to properly handle emergency situations keeping the safety of all students of the utmost importance. A fire drill will be practiced during the school year.

Medical

Allergy Management

Inform the teacher of any allergies that the student has at the beginning of the school year, or immediately after a new allergy develops. Any necessary medication can be turned in, with a doctor's note, to the Director of the program at the beginning of the school year. The student is not allowed to keep medication in their personal belongings.

Protocol for Allergic Reactions

1. Administer necessary treatment as written by parents.
2. Call 911.
3. Call parents.

Emergency/Illness

Parents should NOT bring their child to Rooted Enrichment when any of the following exist:

- Fever over 100.4, vomiting, and/or diarrhea (must be symptom free without fever medication for 24 hours)
- Symptoms of childhood diseases (unexplained rash, scarlet fever, measles, sore throat, pink eye, etc.)
- Unexplained rash or skin infection (boils, ringworm, etc.)

Medication

Prescribed medication taken during program hours and/or emergency medication must be given to Rooted Enrichment's Director in the original packaging with attached prescription outlining frequency and dosing instructions. Additionally, the program medication form must be completed. Over-the-counter medication may not be brought to the program.

Parent Volunteers:

In order to best ensure a safe and productive classroom environment, we are seeking parent volunteers to serve at least once per semester. Volunteers will assist to allow additional support to both the classroom teachers and students. Rotating parent volunteers will serve throughout the calendar year assisting grades K to 8. Parent's serving in this role are subject to background checks. Children not enrolled in the program will not be allowed to accompany the parent volunteer.

Standards of Behavior

Students are expected to honor Christ in the ways they speak and act. They are expected to be responsible, honest, and respectful to all adults and peers. In addition, standards of behavior include:

- Refrain from personal displays of affection.
- Possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any non-prescription medications or drugs in any form on FBCH property will result in dismissal.
- Pocket knives, guns, weapons, lighters, and toys resembling weapons are prohibited.
- Social media use of any kind is prohibited.

Classroom Expectations

Teachers will communicate specific classroom expectations at the start of each academic year.

In order to maintain the safety and success for all students, children must be able to independently follow group instruction, follow classroom routines, physically transition to the next activity/area, get in line, and wait appropriately in line with peers upon request.

As a weekday program, we are not set up to provide **one-on-one** care for a child. When one child requires *ongoing* individual time, attention and care, it leaves the other children with a less than desirable experience and beyond the teacher/child ratio we maintain for excellence. Subsequently, this can also lead to classroom management issues.

Conflict Resolution

Rooted Enrichment partners with parents and teachers to enrich home based education. Open communication between parents and staff is imperative. If a concern arises between parents and teacher, Rooted Enrichment's policy will be to seek a Biblical answer for restoration. The Director and teachers are always available to discuss any specific concerns.

All incidents of harassment and bullying should be brought to the attention of the child's teacher and the Director. Rooted Enrichment will not tolerate any incidents of confirmed bullying and/or violent behavior directed towards other students and/or staff.

Lunch & Celebration Expectations

Students are expected to bring their own lunch and water bottle. Rooted Enrichment is unable to heat or refrigerate items. Weather permitting, students will picnic lunch in a designated courtyard followed by recess.

Parents are required to notify their child's classroom teacher by the Monday prior to class if bringing special food items for birthday celebrations. Please provide the teacher with specific brands and/or a list of ingredients. The teacher will share this with all the classroom parents. This allows parents to send an alternative for their child if desired. If the teacher was not notified three days in advance, the treat will not be passed out. This gives ample time for all communication to take place so that everyone can participate in the celebration.

Recess

All recess equipment will be provided by the program. Toys, media, and games from home are prohibited.

Facility/Property usage

It is important that children (students and siblings) are supervised at all times while at FBCH. Please do not allow children to run around or enter classrooms unattended. It is a safety issue, and we don't have access to other rooms in the hallway. Thank you for your help with this!

Media, and Electronic Devices

Phones and smart watches may be brought to school with their sole purpose to call home and check-in with parents. This is to be done only with pre-approval from the teacher. Phones are to remain on silent and in the student's backpack at all times unless approved by the teacher. Social media, photos, and internet usage during program hours is strictly prohibited. If a student is found using a device without approval or inappropriately, the device will be collected and returned to the parent at pick-up.

Student Dress Code

We believe that a Christian's appearance and conduct is a demonstrative part of his or her testimony. Clothing should be modest in nature, reflecting FBCH Biblical standards. Rooted Enrichment reserves the right to deem something inappropriate that may not be covered in this handbook. You will be sent home to change your clothes if you are found to be out of compliance with the dress code.

- Shirts and dresses should cover the midriff. Shirts should not be higher than the student's waistline. No crop tops.
- Sheer or low-cut shirts are not acceptable, nor are spaghetti straps, strapless, or backless shirts and dresses.
- Shirts with inappropriate slogans, words, or pictures are not allowed.
- All undergarments must be covered up.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must come no higher than 4" above the knee.
- Tears, rips, or holes must be no higher than 4" above the knee. No skin is to be exposed above 4" from the knee

Discipline

We want all students to know that FBCH is a place where they are loved and cared about. Our goal is for all the children to feel safe and secure while at FBCH, therefore the policies and practices we subscribe to are designed to facilitate this.

If your child demonstrates disruptive behavior or is unable to meet Rooted's classroom expectations, we will implement the following strategy:

- **1st contact:** Your child's teacher will contact you to discuss the issue and seek input and insight for guiding your child.
- **2nd contact:** A meeting will be scheduled with you, your child's teacher(s) and the Rooted Enrichment Director.
- **3rd contact:** If the action plan is ineffective in supporting the success of your child, the Board of Advisors will be notified and your child may be dismissed from Rooted Enrichment for the duration of the school year.

In all cases of threats of violence or physical violence, suspension or expulsion is at the discretion of the program's Director.

A written account of incidents with physical involvement, recurring patterns, foul language, and inappropriate conversation will be recorded and kept in the student's private file. A copy of the written account will be emailed to the parent after discussion with the teacher and/or director.

Governance & Administration

Rooted Enrichment is under the authority of FBCH. FBCH provides direction and oversight to Rooted Enrichment. A Board of Advisors communicates with FBCH program specifics. Day-to-day operations are facilitated by Rooted Enrichment's Director and Teachers.

Policy & Procedure Amendments

Rooted Enrichment strives to incorporate policies & procedures that are specifically designed to meet the requirements of homeschool families, while also adhering to applicable federal, state, and local laws. Amendments to our policies & procedures are anticipated as Rooted Enrichment continues. Please know that any amendment to our policies and/or procedures will be thoroughly & faithfully communicated to, and examined by the appropriate staff, the Board of Advisors, and FBCH, before amendments are incorporated. Should an amendment be incorporated during the academic year, an email will be distributed to our homeschool families notifying them of the policy and/or procedure amendment.