

# Table of Contents

I. Purpose .....	2
II. Admission Policies/Notice of Non-Discrimination.....	2
III. Program Description.....	2
A. Child Staff Ratios	
B. ABC Schedule	
C. Billing	
D. Toys	
IV. Communication.....	4
A. Absences	
B. Accidents/Emergencies	
C. Change of Address/Phone Number	
D. Dual Parent/Guardian Reporting	
E. School Closings	
F. Parent/Guardian Participation	
G. Technology	
H. Bullying	
V. Emergency Procedures.....	6
VI. Discipline/Dismissal.....	8
VII. School Dress Code/Good Grooming.....	8
VIII. Health/Safety Issues.....	9
A. Injury and Medical Emergencies	
B. Medication	
C. Hand Washing Practices	
D. Communicable Illnesses	
E. Fire and Tornado Drills	
F. Supervision	
G. Playground	
H. Strangulation Prevention	
IX. Biting Policy.....	14
X. Access Policy .....	16
XI. Snacks/Food and Nutrition .....	17
XII. Staff Requirements .....	18

## **I. Purpose**

- A. The purpose of the Bosco Catholic School System(BCSS) ABC program is to provide a safe, christian environment for children after school while parents are still at work for the day.

## **II. Admission Policies/Notice of Non-Discrimination**

- A. Students in grades PK-5 may participate in ABC.
- B. Parents/guardians must provide the BCSS ABC Program with completed registration forms, including a parent statement of health, immunization record and doctor physical (PK) before the child may attend the after school program. This information needs to be updated annually. This includes complete registration through PowerSchool in August.
- C. Parents/guardians must complete the weekly schedule sent via email each week. Failure to do so will result in your child not being able to attend the BCSS ABC Program that week.
- D. BCSS ABC Program will not deny enrollment to a child based on race, color, national or ethnic origin or religion.
- E. Medical/Dental Information: BCSS ABC staff shall obtain specific information from the parent/ guardian of students regarding where emergency medical and dental services should be obtained. The parent/guardian of each student will authorize a doctor, dentist and hospital within proximity of the school that can be contacted in the event of an emergency.
- F. Withdrawal from BCSS ABC Program: A family can choose to discontinue use of the after school program at any time with a non-refundable registration fee.

## **III. Program Description**

- A. Child/Staff Ratios
  - 1. There will be a minimum of 1 caregiver for each 15 children on staff at any time.
  - 2. There will be a minimum of 1 caregiver for each 12 4-year old children.
  - 3. There will be a minimum of 1 caregiver for each 10 3-year old children.
- B. ABC Schedule
  - 1. After School Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 2:20-6:00
  - 2. Drop Off
    - a. Children in attendance at St. Joseph will be bussed to Immaculate Conception immediately following dismissal.
    - b. Children in attendance at Immaculate Conception will be accompanied by a teacher to the ABC classroom immediately following dismissal.
  - 3. Children will begin with time to play outside. If the weather does not allow, students will be indoors.

4. Snacks will be provided. For each child with special health care needs, food allergies, or special nutritional needs, the child's health care provider should provide the program with an individualized care plan prepared in consultation with family members and specialists involved in the child's care. Children with food allergies shall be protected from contact with the problem food. With written family consent, the program posts information about the child's allergies in the areas of the facility the child uses as a visual reminder to all adults who interact with the child during the day.
5. BCSS ABC program does not offer a rest time during its program hours of operation.
6. If the weather permits, children may return outside after snack, depending on daily activities.
7. Pick Up
  - a. Children are to be picked up no later than 6:00 PM
  - b. Parents will need to come to the playground if the group is outside or to the middle doors of Immaculate Conception for pick up.
  - c. A parent/guardian or adult that is listed on the ABC Application Form must pick up the child. Children WILL NOT be released to any other person unless there has been prior parental consent and will need to show ID.
  - d. If you are going to be late, please call the school as soon as possible to notify the staff and to let your child know so they do not become anxious. If calling after regular school hours, call 319-296-1089 , ext. 2107. The school number is 319-296-1089.

#### C. Sign In/Out

1. BCSS ABC Staff sign the children in as they arrive at the Program. Staff compare the Schedule Ahead form with the attendance for the given day. If a child is absent, ABC Staff will check with the office to see if the child left early. Parents will also be called to see if there was a change of plans for the day. Parents will initial the Sign In/Out form each day at pick up.
2. Any visitor to the BCSS ABC will be required to sign in at the office upon arrival and departure. They must fill out the required paperwork including name, time arrived, time departed, classroom, and reason or visit.

#### D. Billing

1. Parents/guardians agree to pay the established childcare rate. These fees are to be paid monthly. Payment is due the first week after the previous month.
2. Billing for all students will start at 2:30.
3. There is a 15 minute minimum charge.

4. A 15 minute charge will be charged to those families who do not let ABC Staff know their child is going to be absent by noon on their scheduled day of attendance.

E. Toys

1. BCSS ABC asks that children NOT bring toys and other items from home. This will eliminate misplaced, broken, and lost toys. BCSS ABC Program cannot be responsible for lost or broken toys.

**IV. Communication**

A. Absences: If your child has a communicable illness we ask that they do not attend ABC. Should a child become ill while at ABC, the parent/guardian will be expected to pick up the child from ABC within one hour. Please keep the staff informed of any changes in your child's health status and/or eating habits (i.e., a child who develops an allergy.)

- a. Families must notify ABC Staff by noon if their child is going to be absent on their scheduled day of attendance.

B. Accidents/Emergencies:

1. Incidents or accidents resulting in injury to a child or minor changes in health or behavior will be reported on the day of the accident. The written report will be prepared by the staff person who observed the incident, injury or minor change in health or behavior and shall include a general description of the incident and of the action taken, if any, by the staff at ABC.
2. If a child is hurt more severely, the staff will arrange for the transport of the child as quickly as possible to the Emergency Room and contact the parent/guardian. All BCSS ABC Program staff have had the Bloodborne Pathogens training.

C. Change of Address/Phone Number: Please notify the BCSS ABC immediately if you have a change of address or telephone number (home, work, cellular). This information must be kept up-to-date, particularly in the case of an emergency.

D. Dual Parent/Guardian Reporting:

1. According to the Archdiocesan Catholic School Board Policy 5124, in the case of a child whose parent/guardian marriage has been dissolved or a separation of parent/guardian from the home, the name and address of BOTH parent/guardian should be on file.
2. Unless otherwise decreed by a court order, information commonly made available to parents/guardians of any child will be made available to both parents/guardians. In the case of children whose parent/guardian marriage has dissolved, a certified copy of the Order of Dissolution (the

portion that pertains to child custody), as well as any subsequent modification or the order, should also be on file. If any major confrontations occur at BCSS during the process families will be asked to leave the program.

#### E. School Closings

1. BCSS ABC will follow the Bosco Catholic School System schedule regarding school closings due to bad weather. BCSS follows Waterloo Public School, but will occasionally call it on their own as well.
2. In the case of an early dismissal due to weather, BCSS ABC will be closed for the afternoon, unless school closes for a high temperature day.
3. Do not call the school. Listen to KWWL or KCRG, or check their websites. You will also receive a call from SwiftReach. If you miss the call, please take the time to listen to the message that is left.

#### F. Parent/Guardian Participation:

1. We encourage you to contact us with any questions. The childcare staff cannot accept verbal messages from the children. Please write a note and include it in their folder, agenda, send an email or leave a message for the staff to return your call.
2. Parents/Guardians are welcome to visit and observe the program in session at any time, unless parent contact is prohibited by a court order.

#### G. Technology:

The ABC Program does not utilize technology on a daily basis. There are occasions when children are allowed to use technology to learn how to draw certain drawings or to research a topic that has come up in conversation.

#### H. Bullying Prevention

It is the policy of the Archdiocesan Catholic School Board and BCSS to maintain a learning environment that is free from any type of harassment/bullying. No student associated with the educational programs governed by the Archdiocesan Catholic School Board shall be subjected to any type of harassment/bullying while on school/parish property, at any school/parish function, or at a school/parish sponsored activity regardless of location. It is a violation of policy for any school employee, volunteer or student to harass/bully a student through conduct or communications as defined below. Harassment and bullying shall be construed to mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which is based on any actual or perceived trait or characteristic of the student and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions: 1) places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property, 2) has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health, 3) has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance, 4) has the

effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the educational program. It includes but is not limited to 1) epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts; 2) written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group that is circulated within or placed on walls, bulletin boards, or elsewhere on premises where the educational program operates; and 3) name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, excessive teasing and hazing. Trait or characteristic of the student includes but is not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status or familial status. Electronic means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. Electronic includes but is not limited to communication via electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging. The standard for determining whether verbal or physical conduct is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create a hostile or abusive environment is whether a reasonable student in the same or similar circumstances would find the conduct intimidating, hostile or abusive. It is not necessary to show that the victim was psychologically harmed. Any school employee, volunteer, parent, guardian or student who witnesses or becomes aware of conduct in violation of this policy should file a complaint in writing directly to the victim or perpetrator's teacher, immediate supervisor, principal, or the Superintendent 15 Bosco Catholic School System Parent/Guardian Student Handbook of Schools of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. The complaint shall describe the perceived violation, name the perpetrator and the victim, and identify any potential witnesses to the incident. This policy is in compliance with Iowa Code Chapter 216 and 280.12(2)(f) and ACSB policies 2515.1, 2515.11, 5144.3

## **V. Emergency Procedures**

Emergency procedures are in order for a number of scenarios. The staff will take the attendance sheet, child emergency information forms, and the first aid kit when leaving the classroom for an emergency. Staff will notify parents using the emergency phone numbers provided by parents. Emergency procedure diagrams are posted for exiting the school building or seeking shelter with the school depending on the scenario.

- A. **Fire Evacuation Procedures:** Call 911. Children and staff will walk in line. Staff will carry immobile children as needed. Staff will take attendance sheet, child emergency information forms and first aid kit. Children and staff will exit the classroom through the closest fire exit door. They will proceed to the grassy area to the North of the building. Staff will check off children's names and staff names.

Use CPR/First aid as necessary. Notify emergency personnel. If safe, re-enter the building. Families will be notified. If not safe, proceed to Don Bosco gym or Gilbertville Fire Station, or nearby safe area .

- B. **Tornado Procedure:** Children and staff will move into the locker rooms on the main floor in an orderly manner. Staff will carry immobile children as necessary. Staff will take attendance sheet, child emergency information forms and first aid kit. Everyone will sit/kneel on the floor covering their head with hands. Staff will take attendance of children and staff. Use of CPR/first aid as necessary. Notify emergency personnel of any missing or injured persons. After all clear return to the classroom. Families will be notified. If it is not safe to stay in the building, evacuate to Don Bosco, Gilbertville Fire Station, or nearby safe area.
- C. **Blizzard Procedure:** Listen to the weather report. Stay inside. Keep dry and warm. Check water, food and heat source. Staff will take attendance of children and staff. Families will be notified. Wait for families to pick up children. If children are not picked up within one hour after closing time, keep calling families.
- D. **Building Structural Damage Procedure:** Call 911. Children and staff will sit on the floor under tables or walk into the hallway. Staff will carry immobile children as needed. Sit on the floor with hands over their head. Staff will take attendance sheets, child emergency information forms and first aid kit. If safe, children and staff will evacuate the building at the safest and nearest exit. Proceed to a grassy area away from the building. Staff will take attendance of children and staff. Use CPR/first aid as necessary. Notify emergency personnel of missing or injured persons. Families will be notified.
- E. **Power Failure Procedures:** Office will be notified and they will notify maintenance personnel to research problems. Use flashlights and/or emergency lighting. No candles. Staff will take attendance of children and staff. In case of emergency, call 911 or MidAmerican at 888-427-5632. Stay inside and away from downed power lines. Families will be notified if there is a need for children to be picked up.
- F. **Bomb Threat Procedure:** Call 911. Children and staff will line up. Staff will carry immobile children as needed. Staff will take attendance sheets, first aid kit and child emergency forms. Children and staff will exit the building by the safest and nearest exit. Proceed to a grassy area far from the building. Lead teacher will take attendance of children and staff. Notify emergency personnel of missing or injured persons. Use CPR/first aid as necessary. Wait for instructions from emergency personnel. Return to the building after being cleared for safety. If not safe proceed to Don Bosco, Gilbertville Fire Dept, or nearby safe area. Families will be notified.

- G. **Chemical Spill Procedure:** Call 911. Keep children safely away from the spill area. Identify chemicals spilled. Follow directions from the fire department Hazardous Material Emergency Team.
- H. **Missing Child Procedure:** BCSS ABC Staff do attendance before, during, and after returning indoors from recess, snack, or a field trip. Before, during, and after recess BCSS ABC Staff do a head count. For field trips, BCSS ABC Staff do a name to face count before leaving school, while on site, before leaving the field trip site, and returning to school.

If a child goes missing, BCSS ABC Staff will alert all other staff in the building and proceed to search bathrooms, classrooms, church, outside, etc. The DHS Programming Director, Parents/Guardians and local authorities will be contacted if determined the child is missing. BCSS ABC Staff will fill out an Incident Report and notify DHS/HHS. Detailed information of what the child was wearing and where the child was last seen will be included. Staff will also include other important information such as things they may have noticed before the child disappeared.

- I. **Intoxicated Pick-Up Person Procedure:** Tell them that they need to have someone else pick up the child. If the person insists on taking the child, call 911 to report the pick up person.
- J. **Intruder in Building Procedure:** Call 911. Close and lock the classroom door. Lead teacher will take attendance of children and staff. Close all doors in proximity to the classrooms. Close blinds. If threatened, protect self.

## **VI. Discipline/Dismissal**

- A. Kind, consistent, but firm discipline with positive redirection will be used. There will be no physical punishment. If necessary, time away from the activity to regain self-control will be used.
- B. If a child is showing negative behaviors such as consistent discipline problems, biting, or behaviors that are creating consistent disruption in the classroom routine or if the child is showing signs of inconsistent potty training abilities the procedure for addressing these concerns is as follows:
  - 1. The staff will notify the parent/guardian about the behavior/issue in person or by email.
  - 2. The staff will make a phone call to the parent/guardian regarding the issue.
  - 3. The staff will set up a meeting to talk with the parent/guardian face to face in order to work on the behavior/issue.

- C. After following this procedure, if the child's behavior and attitude continues to be disruptive to the group or to other children's welfare, BCSS ABC reserves the right to ask you to withdraw the child from our program.

## VII. Dress Code

- A. Students may change into comfy clothes, but need to follow the same out of uniform school day dress code.

## VIII. Health/Safety Issues

- A. Injury and Medical Emergency Procedure/Policy: If an injury occurs while at ABC, an incident report will be completed and filed. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified as soon as possible by phone or email. In the case of an emergency, Bosco Catholic School System will follow the emergency contact protocol provided by parent(s)/guardian(s).

1. **Medical Emergencies:** In case of an emergency, we will secure such emergency medical care as your child might require by calling 911. The staff will notify parents and/or the child's physician as listed on your health review form. If it is necessary to have the child transported to a hospital, we will call an ambulance to take the child to the hospital listed on your child's information form or the nearest hospital, unless instructed otherwise by the physician or parent. The parent will be charged for the cost of the emergency medical care. Should this ever happen, a staff member would ride along in the ambulance with your child, and the parent would be contacted. The staff member would take the child's file in the ambulance (with the health care information and numbers on it), and stay with the child until the parent/guardian arrives. The staff member remaining in the classroom will call a supervisor who will arrange for a substitute in the classroom and a ride back for the staff member who rode in the ambulance.
2. If a **dental emergency** occurs (such as a chipped or knocked out tooth), the teacher or staff member will rinse the area and apply an ice pack to the face to reduce swelling. The parent/guardian is notified and the parent/guardian will notify the dentist to secure further treatment if needed.

### B. Medication:

1. If at all possible medications should be given at home or if necessary before the end of the school day.
2. **Medications should be brought directly to school by the parent or care provider, not sent to school with the child.**

### C. Hand Washing Practices:

1. BCSS ABC program ensures that staff will assist children in personal hygiene sufficiently to prevent or minimize the transmission of illness or disease.
2. Hand washing is the most important way to reduce the spread of infection. Many studies have shown that unwashed or improperly washed hands are the primary carriers of infections. All BCSS ABC staff, volunteers, and children shall follow these guidelines for hand washing at the following times:
  - a) Upon arrival for the day.
  - b) Before and After
    - Eating or handling food
  - c) After
    1. Playing outside
    2. Using the toilet or helping a child use the toilet
    3. Handling bodily fluid (mucus, blood, vomit), from sneezing, wiping and blowing noses, from touching mouths or sores.
    4. Handling pets and other animals/cleaning cages
    5. Playing in sandboxes
    6. Cleaning or handling garbage.

### D. Communicable Illnesses

1. AIDS: Children diagnosed as having AIDS, or with laboratory evidence of infection with the AIDS associated virus (HIL.V-III/LAV) and receiving medical attention may attend classes in an unrestricted educational setting in accordance with Archdiocesan Board of Education Policy 5141.2
2. Fever: If a child has a temperature of 100°F or higher, a parent will be called to come pick up the child.
3. Respiratory Distress: If the child has a temperature elevation (unless temperature elevation is due to recent immunization) the child shall not be brought to ABC. This shall also be the case if the child gets red or blue in the face or makes a high-pitched croup or wheezing sound after the child coughs.
4. Diarrhea and Vomiting: If there is any diarrhea or vomiting, the child may not be brought to ABC. If the child has any loose stools while at ABC, or if the child vomits at ABC, he/she will be sent home. The child may return if he/she has been free from diarrhea or vomiting for 24 hours. If there is diarrhea or vomiting for several days, a physician should be notified.

5. Eye Infections: If the child has eyes that are mattered or draining, the child shall not be brought to ABC. The child may return after he/she is on antibiotic ointment for 24 hours or the eye has shown marked improvement.
6. Impetigo: A child with impetigo shall be excluded from ABC for 24 hours after treatment has begun. The return shall depend upon the location of the infected area and if the area is dried and healing.
7. Ear Infection: If there is drainage from the ear; your child shall not be at ABC (Exception: if the child has tubes and has been on an antibiotic for 24 hours.) A child with a diagnosed ear infection with no drainage must be on medication or a release must be obtained from a physician stating that the child is free from communicable disease.
8. Lice: Parents are the key to looking for and treating head lice! The Iowa Department of Public Health advises parents to spend 15 minutes each week on each child carefully looking for head lice or nits. Persons with nits within ¼ inch of the scalp OR live lice should be treated. There is no need for children to be sent home or miss school, though treatment should be started before returning to school the next day.
9. Hand, Foot, and Mouth: Symptoms include fever, sore throat, feeling unwell, irritability, and loss of appetite. The virus usually clears up on its own within 10 days. Pain medications help relieve symptoms. Children can return to school after the fever is gone. Most often, this takes 2 to 3 days. Children with widespread blisters may need to stay home until the blisters dry up.
10. Ringworm: When ringworm is diagnosed in a child, that child shall be restricted from ABC until the day after appropriate medication has been initiated. All clothing worn by child prior to treatment should be laundered. It is advisable that family members also be treated.
11. Chicken Pox: The child may not attend ABC until the sores have stopped seeping and are scabbed over.
12. Strep Throat: The child may return to school 24 hours after the first dose of antibiotic.
13. Covid 19: See guidance at the end of this handbook.

#### E. Fire and Tornado Drill:

1. Unannounced drills are conducted at various times during the year in accordance with Iowa Codes. Students are expected to leave in an orderly fashion, without talking, according to the directions of the teacher and return the same way. One tornado drill and one fire drill is practiced each month.
2. Lead in Drinking Water: During 1991 all schools of the Archdiocese were tested for lead in the drinking water. The test results indicated the lead levels were

below the established safety levels. Based upon these results and the rules of the Iowa Department of Health no additional testing for lead is required.

3. Chemical Right to Know Law requires all schools in the nation to prepare a list of chemicals that are known to be present in their buildings and to maintain material safety data sheets (MSDS) on them. The law further states that all chemicals are to be appropriately labeled, storage areas are to be posted for the hazardous chemicals, and employees that work with the chemicals are to be trained in the safe handling of these chemicals. The school is also to acquaint the local fire department with the location of hazardous chemicals in the school. If you want to know what chemicals are used in the school and where they are stored, please contact the principal.
4. Asbestos: Federal regulations and Archdiocesan Board of Education policy 7113 require us to inform you that there is asbestos in the Immaculate Conception Building.
5. Radon Testing: During 1991, all schools of the Archdiocese were tested for radon. The test results indicated the rooms were below the established safety levels.
6. Tobacco/Smoke Free Campus: BCSS has been designated as a Tobacco/Smoke Free Campus. There is to be no tobacco or smoking on school grounds at any time.

#### F. Supervision:

1. BCSS ABC Staff are trained to position themselves so they can observe, count, and listen to children while in the classroom, bathroom breaks, snacks, outdoor time, and while on field trips. BCSS ABC Staff continuously scan the entire environment to know where the children are and what they are doing.
2. BCSS ABC Staff position themselves on field trips or on walks so a staff member is always at the front, middle, and back of the group. BCSS ABC staff frequently do name to face recognition while on field trips and walks.
3. BCSS ABC Staff are allowed to have their cell phones with them while outdoors for recess and on field trips in case of emergency. The use of cell phones is prohibited in the classroom, snacks, and bathroom breaks.
4. BCSS ABC is not around any bodies of water. If they were to go on a field trip near water, BCSS Staff will always be within arms length of the child.

#### G. Playground

1. BCSS ABC Children have the opportunity for daily outdoor play (when weather, air quality, and environmental safety conditions do not pose a health risk). When outdoor opportunities for large motor activities are not possible because of the conditions, BCSS ABC staff will provide similar activities indoors. Indoor equipment for

large motor play meets national safety standards and is supervised in the same manner as outdoor equipment.

2. BCSS ABC Staff conduct a monthly playground safety inspection. Items that are inspected include the following: equipment, sidewalks, and toys. Any items found to be cracked or broken will be removed or taped off until they can be fixed or replaced. All equipment has been installed according to manufacturer instructions including anchoring.
3. BCSS ABC Staff also conduct a daily inspection of the playground before each use. Staff use a checklist to look for hazards such as missing or broken parts, protruding nuts or bolts, rust and chipping/peeling paint, sharp edges, splinters, rough surfaces, visible cracks, wear and deterioration, anchoring of equipment, broken bottles and toys, discarded cigarettes and stinging insect nests. Any broken bottles or toys will be removed from the playground immediately. If stinging insect nests are found, children will not be allowed to use the desired equipment or area until the nests have been removed.
4. BCSS Preschool uses mulch on the playground. Surfacing depth required under the playground structure and swings meet National Playground Safety Standards as well as the U.S Consumer Product Safety Commission.
5. BCSS Preschool Staff are trained to position themselves so they can observe, count, and listen to children while engaged with the equipment being used on the playground. BCSS Preschool Staff continuously scan the entire environment to know where the children are and what they are doing. BCSS Preschool staff also understand the importance of imaginative play of young children, any signs of physical or horse play, jumping from heights, and/or destruction of safe surfacing material will not be allowed.

#### H. Strangulation Prevention

1. Strings and cords that are long enough to encircle a child's neck are not accessible to the children. Families are encouraged to remove strings from children's clothing.
2. Window blinds and draperies can be associated with strangulation of young children. Mini blind cords will be positioned so children do not have access to them.
3. Dramatic play items, such as purses, will have the handles removed to prevent strangulation. Ties, scarves, necklaces, and boas will only be used with direct supervision.
4. Lanyards are not used by the staff of BCSS ABC Staff. Any visitors to the ABC Program will be asked to wear a nametag that can be self-adhered to clothing.

#### IX. Biting Policy

1. Caregivers will calmly respond to the child, letting them know that biting is not ok. In addition the following steps will be taken:

- a. The staff will remove the child from the situation and focus caring attention on the child who was bitten.
  - b. Encourage the biter to help take care of the child that was bitten (hold ice pack, comfort the child).
  - c. The caregiver should talk to the child who bit (if able to communicate) and talk about different strategies that the child can use next time (give them appropriate words-if able) instead of biting. This should be done in a short, simple way.
2. Staff will work with parents to gather information about the child's behavior and begin observations to determine the reasons for biting. Examples of some triggers would be: communication deficits, transitions, hunger, lack of sleep, need for oral stimulation or teething pain. Once triggers are identified, staff can work on prevention strategies and start teaching replacement skills. Below are some examples of how the teacher will begin this assessment.
- The staff will examine the context in which the biting is occurring and look for patterns. The staff will document asking the following questions:
    - Was the space too crowded
    - Were there too few toys
    - Was there too little to do, or too much waiting
    - Was the child who bit getting the attention and care he/she deserved at other times, other than when he/she was biting
  - The staff will change the environment, routines or activities if necessary.
  - The staff will work with the child who is biting to resolve conflicts and frustrations in more appropriate manners, including using words, if they are capable of them.
  - The staff will observe the child, to get an idea of why and when they are likely to bite.
  - The staff will identify children likely to be bitten and make special efforts to reduce their chance of being bitten.
  - The staff, parent, and administration will meet regularly to regulate an action plan and to measure the outcome of these changes.
  - If biting continues the staff will observe the group more closely and work with the parents to seek out additional resources as necessary to shadow the child who is biting.
3. First Aid in response to biting (both child and adult)
- a. Wear gloves, clean the wound with soap and water. Run water over the wound for 5 minutes.
  - b. Apply ice or cool compress to help reduce the pain or swelling.
  - c. Bandage the wound as necessary.

- d. Write a detailed incident report for both children involved with the incident.
4. First Aid if bite breaks the skin. (both child and adult)
    - a. Wear gloves, clean the wound with soap and water. Run water over the wound for 5 minutes.
    - b. Control the bleeding.
    - c. Cover the wound with sterile dressing and bandage.
    - d. Contact the parent of BOTH children involved and encourage them to contact their healthcare provider to determine if they need to be seen.
    - e. Write a detailed incident report for both children involved with the incident.
- **When children bite, their parents are informed personally and privately the same day. All information is confidential and names of the children involved in the incident are not shared between parents. In addition, biting is always documented on our standard incident form which is completed and signed by the teacher, parents and an administrator is notified. One copy is given to the parent and one copy is kept in a locked file cabinet in the office.**
    - When biting occurs, here's what you can expect from us:
      - We will put the child's safety first and provide first aid as well as comfort, support and advice to any child who is bitten.
      - We will provide appropriate programming for children to help prevent biting.
      - We will make current information and resources on biting available to you.
      - We will provide teachers with adequate knowledge and training to deal properly and effectively with biting.
      - We will take your concerns seriously and treat them with understanding and respect.
      - We will tell you what specific steps we are taking to address biting and explain the reasoning behind those steps.
      - We will respond to your questions, concerns and suggestions—even when our response to some suggestions is no.
      - We will work to schedule conferences about biting with you at a time you can attend.
      - We will keep your child's identity confidential if he or she bites. This helps avoid labeling or confrontations that may prolong the behavior.
  - We wish we could guarantee that biting will never happen in our program, but we know there is no such guarantee. You can count on us to deal appropriately with biting so it will end as quickly as possible. We want the best for all the children in

our program. If you want more information on biting or have questions or concerns, please let us know-we are here to help you and your child on their journey to independence!

## **X. Access Policy**

- A. Any person in the center who is not an owner, staff member, substitute, or subcontracted staff or volunteer who has had a record check and approval to be involved with child care **shall not** have “**unrestricted access**” to children for whom that person is not the parent, guardian, or custodian, nor be counted in the staff to child ratio.
- Persons who do not have unrestricted access will be under the direct “**supervision**” and “**monitoring**” of a paid staff member at all times and will not be allowed to assume any child care responsibilities. The primary responsibility of the supervision and monitoring will be assumed by the ABC director unless he/she delegates it to the co-director or assistant due to a conflict of interest with the person.
  - Center staff will approach anyone who is on the property of the center without their knowledge to ask what their purpose is. If staff is unsure about the reason they will contact their Site Manager or other management staff to get approval for the person to be on site. If it becomes a dangerous situation staff will follow the “intruder in the center” procedures. Non-agency persons who are on the property for other reasons such as maintenance, repairs, etc. will be monitored by paid staff and will not be allowed to interact with the children on premise.
  - A sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor (even if the sex offender is the parent, guardian, or custodian) who is required to register with the Iowa sex offender registry (Iowa Code 692A):
    1. Shall not operate, manage, be employed by, or act as a contractor or volunteer at the child care center.
    2. Shall not be on the property of the child care center without the written permission of the center director, except for the time reasonably necessary to transport the offender’s own minor child or ward to and from the center.
      - The center director is not obligated to provide written permission and must consult with their DHS licensing consultant first.

- If written permission is granted it shall include the conditions under which the sex offender may be present, including:
  - The precise location in the center where the sex offender may be present.
  - The reason for the sex offender's presence at the facility.
  - The duration of the sex offender's presence.
  - Description of how the center staff will supervise the sex offender to ensure that the sex offender is not left alone with a child.
  - The written permission shall be signed and dated by the director and sex offender and kept on file for review by the center licensing consultant.

## **XI. Snacks/Foods and Nutrition**

- A. Attitudes toward food develop early in life. The food children eat affects their well-being, their physical growth, their ability to learn, and their overall behavior. We have an opportunity to help children learn about foods, to enjoy a variety of foods, and to help them begin to appreciate that their bodies need to be strong, flexible, and healthy. Eating moderately, eating a variety of foods, and eating in a relaxed atmosphere are healthy habits for young children to form.
- B. Children attending BCSS ABC will be provided a nutritionally balanced snack incorporating 2 food groups.
- C. Milk, 100% juice, or water will be provided each day.
- D. A snack from the grain food group will be provided each day.
- E. Occasionally a protein, fruit or vegetable will be provided as the 2nd food group.
- F. For each child with special health care needs, food allergies, or special nutritional needs, the child's health care provider should provide the program and individualized care plan prepared in consultation with family members and specialists involved in the child's care. Children with food allergies shall be protected from contact with the problem food. With written family consent, the program posts information about the child's allergies in the areas of the facility the child uses as a visual reminder to all adults who interact with the child during the day.
- G. BCSS ABC staff will provide supervision and will encourage and model good table manners and appropriate social interactions while eating.

## **XII. Staff Requirements**

A. In accordance with DHS Requirements, Staff of the ABC program will have the following:

1. Current Mandatory Reporter Training.
2. Current First Aid and CPR Training.
3. Annual training in Universal Precautions/Bloodborne Pathogen.
4. Background Check every 2 years.
5. Fingerprinting every 4 years.
6. Physical every 3 years.
7. 10 module Essential Training.
8. 10 hours of training in the first year and 6 hours annually thereafter.
9. New staff training must be completed within 90 days of hire.