



# THE TABERNACLE

LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. MAKE DISCIPLES.

## **TABkids/Student Ministries Special Needs Accommodations Policy and Procedures April 2021**

*The Tabernacle welcomes special needs children/youth to our programs. This may include children/youth with physical, emotional, dietary or other special needs. Reasonable accommodations for these children/youth will be made to help ensure they and their family have a positive experience when attending our TABkids or Student Ministries programs.*

- All children who attend our TABkids or Student Ministries program will be required to fill out a registration form. This form will provide space for parents/guardians to specifically address any special needs their child(ren) may have. This form will be filled out prior to the child/youth attending any regular/special programs.
- After filling out the form, the parent/guardian will be contacted by our TABkids pastor/director or our Student Ministries pastor/director of the campus they attend. During this contact, accommodations and/or needs will be discussed in greater detail. At this time, a plan to accommodate the child/youth will be put in place.
- The TABkids pastor/director or the Student Ministries pastor/director will be responsible for providing adequate training for those volunteers who will be with the child/youth during regular/special programs. They will also be responsible for documenting the accommodation plan and filing it in a secure location.
- The TABkids pastor/director or the Student Ministries pastor/director will be responsible for clearly communicating to the parent/guardian the limitations of Tabernacle volunteers, space, lesson adaptation, and other factors that may effect their child's experience at a TABkids or Student Ministries program or event.

- The TABkids pastor/director or Student Ministries pastor/director will clearly and immediately communicate to parents/guardians any issues that may arise while their child is a participant in a TABkids or Student Ministries program/ event.
- The Tabernacle reserves the right to require parent/guardian participation and/or supervision if their child/youth becomes violent, abusive, disruptive, is a threat to themselves, volunteers or other children/youth in the program or is unable to manage with the pre-arranged reasonable accommodations.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to work as a partner with our Tabernacle staff/ministry leaders to provide a safe/appropriate environment for special needs children and youth. The Tabernacle TABkids pastor/director and Student Ministries pastor/director will welcome feedback and provide opportunities to meet with parents if there are questions or concerns related to their child/youth experience.
- Due to limited resources related to volunteer staffing, The Tabernacle reserves the right to decline participation in regular/special programs if the child/youth need(s) exceeds our ability to provide a safe and/or secure environment.
- Parent/guardians may reach out at any time to the campus-based pastor or church-wide administrator if there are issues/concerns that cannot be resolved through communication with the TABkids director/pastor or Student Ministries pastor/director.