



Where Children Learn and Grow



Where Children Learn and Grow

After-School Programs

Parent Handbook 2026-2027

Phone: 281-239-2110
www.gbhdycare.com
www.gbkidsacademy.com

Updated: 4/29/26

A Special Educators Prayer

By Dr. David J. Welsh

Children are like snowflakes-
No two are quite the same.
Each one is a work of art,
Given the right frame.

They don't fit into boxes,
Measured by a test.
No standard score or letter code
Captures them the best.

The kids I live and work with
Color outside the lines.
But they adorn the universe
Like every star that shines.

So while I strive to educate,
(and civilize them, too),
Help me to remember, Almighty-
They each look just like you!

Table of Contents (As of 4/29/26)

Introduction	3
Enrollment Requirements	4
Hours of Operation	4
Late Pick –Up Policy	4
Sign Out Procedures	5
Custody Policy	5
Tuition, Cancellation and Security Deposit Policy	5
Late Payment	6
Returned Bank Drafts & Declined Credit Cards	6
Scholarship	6
Student Responsibilities	6
Early Release	6
School Holidays	7
Emergency Preparedness	7
Parent Notification	8
Medical Emergency/Injury/Illness	8
Medication/Allergies	8
Absences and Discipline	9
Classroom Setting, Special Needs and ARDS	10
Snacks	10
Staff Training and Vaccine Preventable Diseases	10
Parent Comments, Questions, or Visitation	11
Year End Statements	11
Notice – Play Equipment – Operation of Program	11
Notices and Instructions	12
Payment Schedule Calendar	13
Important Numbers	14

**Gingerbread Kids After-School
Program 814 FM 2977
Richmond, TX 77469
(281) 239-2110**

(2026-2027)

Welcome to the Gingerbread Kids After-School Programs.

For the past 25 years, Gingerbread After-School programs have been provided on a variety of elementary campus' in the Lamar ISD. In 2014 we opened the Gingerbread Kids Academy in Richmond which allows us to provide year round care for families who still need child care during the summer and other school breaks or holidays. We look forward to working with you and your family in providing your child with an enjoyable after-school experience. There are five goals that we have established for this program:

1. Provide an atmosphere where independence and choices are encouraged while understanding the meaning of reasonable limits and expectations.
2. We provide an in-house curriculum that includes art, math, science, music, physical activities & STEM. You can request a sample schedule.
3. Provide teachers that have the understanding and training of child development and offer enthusiasm for learning.
4. Keep open Communication with the parents and the school.
5. Create an atmosphere where every child feels special.

Please take the time to read this parent handbook. If you have a question or concerns, please call me at (281) 239-2110 or (281) 923-4162.

Sincerely,

**Tim Kaminski, Director of Operations
Gingerbread Kids After-School Programs**

**Kathryn Kaminski, Owner
Gingerbread Kids After-School Programs**

Parent Handbook (2026-2027)

To establish a well-organized After-School program, the following information is being made available to all participants. Please keep this Handbook for future reference.

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

A registration packet must be completed to enroll a student in the After-School program. Once the packet is complete, the registration fee, security deposit and first week's tuition are due at the time you submit the paperwork for processing. The State acknowledges that immunizations, TB, hearing, and vision screening documentation are kept on file at the public school. However, you must still sign the acknowledgment page. You must **re-register** your child to attend the after-school program every year.

HOURS OF OPERATION

We will be open from 2:30 to 6:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday during the regular school year. **Closing Hours may be changed to 6:00 p.m during emergency conditions or pandemics.** On early release days we will be open according to the early release schedule only if we have at least **15 students** sign up. When the public school is closed and childcare is needed, arrangements can be made, **IN ADVANCE**, with the Gingerbread House Learning Center or Gingerbread Kids Academy. If you reserve a spot, you will be charged whether your child attends or not.

The center will close at **5:30 or 6:00 P.M.** on early release days, and days that the school schedules use of the gym/cafeteria for functions that will begin at 6:00 P.M. or earlier.

LATE PICK-UP POLICY

Late pick-up is assessed beginning at 6:31 p.m. and every 10 minutes thereafter. You will be charged a late fee of **\$40.00** for every 10 minutes that you are late. Payment is expected at the time you pick up your child or it will be drafted from your account the next day. Your child will not be able to return to the After-School Program until this charge has been cleared.

If you are late in picking up your child/children more than twice, your childcare will be suspended for 1 week. This is a charged Week.

Late fees will be strictly enforced regardless of the reason for being late. Please make arrangements for alternate pick-ups for days when you might be running late.

SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

Any person picking up a child from the After-School Program must present a photo ID and be on the child's list of approved adults to pick up. They will be required to write the date, time, and sign the child's sign out sheet. Please do not call and change the names. This must be done in writing and changed on the enrollment sheet ahead of time.

Childcare licensing requires that we show accountability for each child absent. If you do not notify us that your child will be absent, we must contact the school to determine if your child was present at school that day. If we are unable to locate your child, we will contact you to confirm their location.

CUSTODY POLICY

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT: A parent has the right to pick up his/her children at any time. The only exception is a court order stating that they do not have that right. If there is a restraining order, it must specify the child. If the order pertains only to a spouse, this does not cover the child. If we do not have a copy of the legal documents, we cannot enforce a parent's personal request.

In cases of sole custody, we will not allow social visits of the non-custodial parent, or personal phone calls to the child while the child is in our care. These visits should be arranged during the time the child is at home. We provide an environment that is conducive to a child and eliminates as much stress as possible.

TUITION

. Tuition is due according to the Schedule located on page 11 of the parent handbook. Upon registration you paid the first week's tuition. There will be **(11) additional payments** during the school year. **You are not charged for the Thanksgiving, Christmas Break or Spring Break week.** Tuition is due every 4 weeks and must be paid prior to services being provided. Tuition is **Non-Refundable**. If your child is absent on any given day or week, you will be charged the full rate. There are no daily rates.

CANCELLATION AND SECURITY DEPOSIT POLICY

Registration fees, tuition and security deposits are non-refundable.

Security Deposits can only be applied towards tuition payments with proper notification. If you decide to cancel the after-school services or not return for the next school year, you must give a **2 WEEK written notice prior to the next payment due date** in order to apply the security deposit towards the next payment. otherwise you are still responsible for payment of the 4 week payment.

LATE PAYMENT

Payments are due on a Monday and considered late after Tuesday. Late payments will be assessed a **\$40.00 late payment fee**. Your child won't be allowed to return to the program until the tuition and late fees are paid.

RETURNED BANK DRAFTS & DECLINED CREDIT CARDS

Tuition may be paid in cash, by bank draft, or credit card payment. If we receive a returned bank draft or a declined credit card payment your account will be assessed a **\$40.00 returned/declined payment fee**. After the 2nd returned draft or declined credit card, all future payments will be by cash only. It is your responsibility to get a receipt from a staff member.

Tuition Assistant Programs

Tuition Assistant Programs are available through Texas Workforce Solutions and through Child Care Aware of America. You may contact Texas Workforce Solutions or Child Care Aware of America for additional information or Tim Kaminski at **twkaminski@sbclglobal.net**.

Our Curriculum Goals

We provide an in-house curriculum that includes age appropriate activities such as art, math, science, music, physical activities and STEM projects. We encourage our students to have fun while learning and playing in a structured environment. A sample of our weekly schedule is available upon request.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Electronic devices and screen time are prohibited in the after-school program. The after-school program will follow all school policies as stated in the LCISD parent handbook including any special restrictions related to emergency situations or pandemic conditions. This includes proper dress attire. Thongs, clogs, high heels, and sandals are not allowed for indoor/outdoor play. Students may be suspended or dismissed from the program for violating any of the school policies or the behavior policies for the Gingerbread After-School program. You will receive a written weekly progress report from the classroom teacher.

EARLY RELEASE

You must register 2 weeks prior to the scheduled early release day. Students who do not preregister, will not be allowed to attend that day. We must have at least 15 students sign up in order for us to open that day. **There are no refunds or transfer of funds to another early release day.** The center will close at 5:30 or 6:30 P.M. on early release days.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The public schools will be closed Thanksgiving, winter break, and spring break. If you need care during those weeks, you can sign up to attend the Gingerbread Kids Academy or the Gingerbread House Learning Center. **THIS MUST BE DONE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH. NO REFUNDS**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In case of an emergency, i.e. storms, flooding, chemical spills, loss of electricity, water etc... the After-School program will be closed if the school district closes, or we are advised by another community service such as the sheriff or fire department. If we evacuate the building or leave the property, our staff will take the student files including the parent and emergency contact list as well as the authorization for emergency care for each student and attendance records, and the students will be relocated via our Gingerbread Vans to the following locations:

Hutchison & Arredondo: Will relocate to Gingerbread Kids Academy
814 FM 2977, Richmond, TX 281-923-4162

Bentley & Terrell: Will relocate to Fulshear Fire Dept., 26051 Fulshear
-Gaston Rd, Richmond, 281-346-4800

Frost: Will relocate to Fire Station #3, 11750 Mason Rd, Richmond, TX
281-238-1210.

Our staff will notify the parents by phone or e-mail that the students have been transferred to a different location and our staff will stay with the students until they are picked up by an authorized person on the child's pick up list. For more information call the Gingerbread After-School program at (281) 239-2110 or (281) 232-9583 or Sheriff's Department for our location.

Additional Emergency Procedures for Fire, Chemical Spills, Lock Downs, Severe Weather or pandemics can be found in the Red Emergency Preparedness Binder located at the front desk of the After-School Program.

If the school district delays classes or opens later in the day, the after-school program will not be open. On "Bad Weather Days" (i.e. Snow, ice, hurricanes etc.) **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CALL OUR CENTER OR GO TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO SEE IF WE WILL BE OPEN OR CLOSING EARLY.**

If we must close the After-School Program for more than 3 days due to circumstances beyond our control, you will be charge ½ the regular tuition rate for that week.

PARENT NOTIFICATION & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Parent notifications are sent out via e-mail. It is your responsibility to notify us in writing of any e-mail or contact information changes during. You can also log into ProCare to make the changes. We provide a community resource binder that includes information on Health & Nutrition

MEDICAL EMERGENCY / ILLNESS / INJURY

State licensing mandates that any child with a fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea **MAY NOT ATTEND** child care for the health and safety of the other children. During a pandemic, childcare licensing may identify additional medical conditions that would restrict your child from attending the program. If you are notified by the school that your child is ill, they will not be allowed to attend the After-School Program. If your child becomes ill during our care, you'll be called to them up.

Injuries not requiring medical assistance will be noted on incident reports. You'll receive a report at the end of the day. If medical assistance is required, you'll be contacted immediately. Please keep your phone numbers and emergency contacts updated through ProCare or by e-mail us at twkaminski@sbcglobal.net

If there is a MEDICAL EMERGENCY with your child, we will provide the necessary care and treatment while contacting emergency personnel. We will then attempt to contact the parents, first, and then the emergency contact person on your list. We will explain the situation and medical emergency. At that time we will make arrangements to meet at the designated medical facility and if medical personnel are on site, you will be given the opportunity to talk to them. A staff personnel will remain with your child until you arrive and will be available to the parents as long as necessary.

MEDICATIONS/ALLERGIES

Staff are not permitted to administer medication unless it is for emergencies such as Asthma or Allergies requiring an Epi Pen. If your child has a diagnosed food allergy by a health care professional, we must have the parent and doctor complete and sign a **Food Allergy Care & Action Plan**. Medications require a written authorization from the parent/guardian of the child along with a doctor's written authorization for administering the medication. All medication must be properly labeled with the name of the child and doctor. If your child is absent due to illness for more than 2 days, a doctor's release note is required for them to return to after-school care. 8

ABSENCES

If a student is absent from public school, they are **Not Allowed** to attend the After-School Program the day of their absence.

If your child leaves the campus for parties, Dr. Appointments, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc... They are considered absent on the After-School roster. They may **Not Return** to the campus later in the day.

Any time a student is gone for more than 1 week without payment, the student is dropped from the enrollment list and the vacancy may be filled. To re-enroll, an opening will have to be available, and a new registration fee paid.

DISCIPLINE

If a **student** is expelled or must stay after school for a school reprimand or detention for any reason, they will not be allowed to attend the After-School program that day. We will not discipline students for events that occurred during regular school hours. This is handled through school policy. When the students enter our program, they abide by our rules and policies.

If a conflict occurs during the After-School Program, the situation will be handled through conflict resolution meetings with the students involved. If this does not solve the conflict, the parents will be called, and we will have a parent conference. Verbal abuse toward other Students, Teachers, or School Personnel will be handled immediately, and a written warning will be given to the parents. The second offense will constitute suspension from the program for 3 days. The third offense for Verbal abuse will be expulsion from the program.

Any physical contact that may cause bodily injury to other Students, Teachers, Parents, or School Personnel will be grounds for immediate suspension from the After-School Program for 5 days. This determination will be made by the On-Site Base Manager, and the Director of the Gingerbread House. A parent conference will be mandatory to determine if your child may return. The second offense will constitute immediate removal from the program. **If a child is suspended or expelled for verbal or physical behaviors, tuition and security deposits are non-refundable.**

If any **parent** becomes abusive, physically, or verbally, toward other students, parents, or teachers, they will be asked to leave the campus. Their child will be expelled from the program.

CLASSROOM SETTING

We rent the gymnasium and cafeteria for use by the after-school program between the hours of 2:40 and 6:30 P.M. Each room is equipped with supplies and equipment that offer opportunities for students to improve their social skills, and their academic achievements. However, there are times that the school will need the use of the gymnasium and/or cafeteria during our hours of operation, so we have to make adjustments. The center will close at 5:30 or 6:00 P.M. on those occasions. You will be given prior notice. Your understanding and flexibility to these changes will be appreciated by our staff.

SPECIAL NEEDS/ARDS/BIP/IEP

Children with special needs must be assessed by the Gingerbread Kids Director of Operations to determine their ability to participate in the after-school program. You must notify us in writing at registration if your child has any special needs, a behavioral intervention plan, individual education program or participates in ARDs at the school. If there is a plan in place you will be required to sign a release of information form so the after-school program and the school can share information.

SNACKS

We will provide a snack in the afternoon. If your child prefers to bring their own snack, they may do so. They will have access to the water fountains, however they must bring their own water bottle with their name on it. If your child is allergic to any specific foods please send them extra snacks to keep at our program. A note from a doctor specifying their allergies will be required.

STAFF TRAINING

The state requires that all staff receive a minimum of 30 hours of child development training within a year of their employment and are renewed annually. The staff are also required to be certified in CPR and First-Aid. We also require a cleared state background check and an FBI check.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

We do not require our staff to obtain the vaccines for preventable diseases. If a staff member has a fever, they will be sent home and must be 24 hrs fever-free before returning to work. If a staff member has cuts on their hands, they will be required to wear gloves. If they have a cough, they will be required to wear a mask. If they contract a communicable disease they will not be allowed to return to work without a doctor's release.

PARENT COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OR VISITATION

Parents have the right to visit their child at the program during business hours, to observe their child, program activities, and the building, grounds, and equipment without having to secure prior approval. Parents are entitled to review our policies, minimum standards, and most recent inspection reports. If you have any questions, concerns, etc... you may call the director, of operations Tim Kaminski at the Gingerbread Kids Academy, (281) 239-2110 during 9-11 M-F. On-site phones are available after 3:00 P.M. Please refer to the last page of the Parent Handbook for the number.

If you want to contact the local licensing office, PRS child abuse hotline or PRS website, (www.txchildcaresearch.org), you may contact the director for the numbers or look in the local phone book under state listings, or the back of the Parent Handbook.

YEAR-END STATEMENTS

You, as the parent, are responsible for keeping your cancelled checks and/or cash receipts for tax purposes. We are required to give you our EIN # 76-0020302. **If you require a printed Year-End statement you must submit your request in writing along with a check for the \$15.00 processing fee.**

NOTICE

THIS IS TO NOTIFY YOU THAT THE OUTDOOR PLAY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY DOES NOT MEET LICENSING STANDARDS AS SPECIFIED IN SUB-CHAPTER (N) 744.3101 KNOWING THAT THE STUDENTS USE THIS EQUIPMENT DURING THE REGULAR SCHOOL DAY, I GIVE PERMISSION FOR THEM TO PLAY ON THIS EQUIPMENT DURING THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM HOURS AND RELEASE THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE AND IT'S EMPLOYEES FROM ANY LIABILITIES AND HOLD HARMLESS FOR INJURIES THAT MAY OCCUR ON THIS EQUIPMENT OR PLAYGROUND.

LAMAR C.I.S.D. IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISING THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM, DISCIPLINE, SAFETY PROCEDURES, PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS, RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS OR ANY OTHER MATTER CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM, SUCH BEING THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER.

INSTRUCTIONS

UPON COMPLETION OF READING THIS HANDBOOK, PLEASE SIGN THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED A COPY AND WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

Notice:

The Gingerbread House After-School program is a No Smoking, No Alcohol, No Drugs, No Cell Phone Usage on the Property, and a Gang and Gun Free Zone. HB 2086

Consumer Product Safety – You may access the CPSC Recall at www.cpsc.gov. HB 95

All staff members are required to receive annual training on preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children. We have partnered with the ESCAPE Family Resource Center for annual trainings and the Fort Bend County Women’s Shelter for families in crisis. If staff or family members suspect abuse or neglect of a child they are encouraged to call the Child Abuse Hotline at 800-252-5400.

You can contact Texas Childcare Licensing at 1110 Ave. G., Rosenberg, TX 77471 or 832-595-3000.

The Texas Department of Family and protective Services website is www.dfps.state.tx.us.

Children under 8 yrs. of age and less than 4’9” must be in a child safety or booster seat. HB 61

Please do not bring cell phones in the after-school program.

The Gingerbread KidsAfter-School Program Does Not
Discriminate Against Race, Denominational Preference, Color,
Sex, or National Origin

2026-2027 PAYMENT SCHEDULE – IN 4 WEEK INCREMENTS

DATE DUE	WEEKS PAID	1 CHILD	2 CHILDREN	3 CHILDREN	STUDENT HOLIDAY
Aug., 11	Aug 17- Aug 21 Aug 24- Aug 28	\$180	\$360	\$540	Aug.11 First day Aug. 28 Early Release
Aug., 24	Aug 31- Sept 4 Sept 7 - Sept 11 Sept 14 - Sept 18 Sept 21- Sept 25	\$360	\$720	\$1080	Sept. 7- Labor Day Sept. 24 - Early Release Sept. 25- Fair Day
SEPT., 21	Sept. 28- Oct 2 Oct 5 - Oct 9 Oct 12- Oct 16 Oct 19 - Oct 23	\$360	\$720	\$1080	Oct. 9-12 Fall Break Oct. 30- Early Release
OCT., 19	Oct 26 - Oct. 30 Nov 2 – Nov 6 Nov. 9 - Nov 13 Nov 16- Nov 20	\$360	\$720	\$1080	Nov. 20 Student Holiday Nov. 23-28Thanksgiving
Nov., 16	Nov. 30 – Dec 4 Dec 7 - Dec 11 Dec 14 - Dec 18 Jan 4 - Jan 8	\$360	\$720	\$1080	Dec. 18 - Student Holiday Dec. 21- Jan 5 Winter Break Dec. 6 Student Holiday
Dec., 14	Jan 11 – Jan15 Jan 18– Jan 22 Jan 25- Jan 29 (3 week payment)	\$270	\$540	\$810	Jan. 18 MLK Day Jan. 29 Early Release
Jan., 25	Feb 1 – Feb 5 Feb 8 – Feb 12 Feb 15 – Feb 19 Feb 22 - Feb 26	\$360	\$720	\$1080	Feb. 15 Student Holiday Feb. 26 - Early Release
Feb., 22	March 1 - March 5 March 15 – March 19 March 22 -March 26 March 29 - April 2	\$360	\$720	\$1080	March 5 - Early Release Mar. 8-12 Spring Break March 25 - Early Release March 26-29 Student Holiday
Mar., 29	April 5 - April 9 April 12 - April 16 April 19 - April 23 April 26 - April 30	\$360	\$720	\$1080	April 29 Early Release April 30 Student Holiday
April., 26	May 3 - May 7 May 10 - May 14 May 17 - May 21 May 24 - May 28	\$360	\$720	\$1080	May 26 Early Release May 26 Last School Day May 2531 Memorial Day
May 3 -7	FALL REGISTRATION 2027				Tuition and Fees Due for Fall Registration 2027

** Add \$30.00 per day per child to regular payment for early release days. Must sign up and pay in advance. **THERE ARE NO REFUNDS OR TRANSFERS FOR EARLY RELEASE DAYS.**

Important Numbers

Emergency----- 911

Home Address: _____

Mom's Work #: -----
Cell #: -----

Dad's Work #: -----
Cell #: -----

Doctor's Number: -----

Hospital Number: -----

Police Department: -----

Fire Department: -----

Frost Elementary ASP
3306 Skinner Lane
Richmond, Texas 77469
832-223-1599 (After 3:00)

Hutchison Elementary ASP
3602 Ransom Rd.
Richmond, Texas 77469
832-223-1799 (After 3:00)

Hubenak Elementary ASP
11344 Rancho Bella Pkwy
Richmond, TX 77469
832-223-2999 (After 3:00)

Arredondo Elementary ASP
6610 August Green Dr
Richmond, TX 77469
832-223-4811 (After 3:00)

Gingerbread Kids Academy
814 FM 2977
Richmond, TX 77469
281-239-2110

Bentley Elementary ASP
9910 FM 359
Richmond, TX 77406
832-223-4911 (After 3:00)

Gingerbread House
2417 4th Street
Rosenberg, TX 77471
281-239-2110

Terrell Elementary ASP
26026 Candela Heights Dr.
Richmond, TX 77406
281-239-2110

Gray Elementary ASP
5055 Sunrise Meadow Dr.
Richmond, TX 77469
281-232-9583

Local Licensing
1110 Ave. G, Rosenberg, Tx 77471
281-341-9696
PRS-Child Abuse Hotline 800-252-5400
Website: www.txchildcaresearch.org

