

## How can I help?

Children's ministries are always looking for helpers and are mostly run by parents of children in the programs. This does not necessarily involve teaching, it could involve helping in crèche, with craft or sitting with a child with special needs to make their experience at church better. Please feel free to contact any of the Pastors or Coordinators listed below if you can help.

The most valuable thing that we can do is to continue to live out our own faith as we read the Bible with our kids at home, pray together and talk about ways our faith makes a difference at work, at school and in your home.

## Contact Information

If you would like to contact someone about Children's Ministry at Maitland Evangelical Church, please talk to Steve or Karen Doust.



## Policy Information for Parents

*“From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to make **you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ**. All Scripture is breathed out by God and is profitable for **teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness**, that the man of God may be competent, **equipped for every good work**”*

*2 Tim 3:15-17*

## Programs Available

<i>Friday 7-9pm</i>	Fusion Youth program
<i>Sunday 10am</i>	0-2 year old Crèche (walkers only) 3-4 year old Crèche (toilet trained children) 4 year olds going to school next year and K 1-2 Sunday School 3-4 Sunday School 5-6 Sunday School 7-8 Disciplemakers
<i>Sunday 5pm</i>	No formal children's program

## What we do...

Each week we do a variety of things. We start with all children in church sitting with their parents and then break into classes. Our class time is spent looking at the Bible, praying, talking about what we've learned and doing activities (games, crafts, drama, music) that reinforce that learning.

Our teachers and helpers have Child Protection training and use safe practices.

## What we value...

- *Children* ...who we believe are a gift from the Lord to our church
- *Families*, who we seek to support in their God-given responsibility to bring up their children as wholehearted followers of Christ
- Teaching the *Bible* in a way that is creative and application oriented
- Modelling a real *relationship with Jesus* to our children
- *Prayer* for children in our church and *praying with children* so that they will grow as prayerful Christians
- Being a *safe place* where positive relationships are modeled and all children feel valued and accepted as individuals

## Our Discipline Policy

Occasionally, a child will find it difficult to be in a structured program on a Sunday. Our focus is that of Ephesians 6:4

**Do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord**

We seek to meet children's individual needs, by having good relationships with them, trying to understand them, and providing interesting Bible centered activities.

We have three rules for all Sunday School classes. Children will:

- 1. Respect God and the Bible**
- 2. Respect people (teachers, other children and themselves)**
- 3. Respect property**

If a child is disruptive in Sunday School, they will calmly be given three warnings. This will let them know that ***what they are doing that is causing concern*** and then they will be given a reminder about ***what they should be doing***. If the child is still unsettled, they will then be brought back to their parents inside the church building. If a child is violent or dangerous then they will be brought back to their parents straight away.

If your child has been sent out, please do not think it has been a judgment on them, or on you, or your parenting. It just means that at that moment in time, the Sunday School or Crèche room was not the best place for your child to be. We try to use discipline as a way to teach forgiveness, mending of relationships and love for what God loves.

## If problems come...

Speak firstly to your child's Sunday School teacher or Sunday School Coordinator. We would love your input in helping us make Sunday mornings an encouraging time of discovering God and His word for your child and family.