



AGAPE

Homeschool

Guidebook

Let all that you do be done with love. 1 Cor. 16:14.

AGAPE Homeschool

Welcome parents, students and teachers. We are so glad you have decided to join us this semester.

This Guidebook is designed to provide you with details of our co-op and give information on our policies, enrichment classes and/or social events. We continually update this guidebook, so please we ask that you read through it carefully with your child(ren) each semester. We the board, are only facilitators of the wonderful events offered to you through AGAPE Homeschool. Our members with the willingness to carry ideas to their completion make it all possible. You can make a difference and we encourage you to prayerfully consider what God would have you share with AGAPE Homeschool. We are a cooperative group, which means we all share the work. Our policy continues to be that if you participate in an activity or event, you will be expected to assist in some capacity.

***** Please note we are NOT a drop off co-op.*****

Agape is a cooperative support organization for christian homeschooling families providing a wide range of benefits and opportunities for its members. Agape Homeschool is open to any homeschooling family of any race and color, national or ethnic origin, religion, or educational handicap.

We look forward to a great year serving with you as we seek to glorify the One who commissioned us to educate our children..

In His service,

The AGAPE Homeschool Team

Mission Statement

Our Mission at Agape Homeschool is to encourage and support homeschooling families by offering affordable, quality academic and social activities to enrich and promote excellence and integrity in homeschooling.

Classes

Agape Homeschool classes run for 50 minutes, where students rotate from class to class between 10:00 a.m and 2:30 pm. The cut-off for all age groups is September 1. It is at the teacher's discretion as to whether he/she will let the child outside of the age group be in their class. If you have a question, please email the teacher of the specific class. We provide a class description to help you determine if the classes are appropriate for your child. Please be sure to read them and ask questions if necessary before registering. Please note Winter and Spring Term are 12 weeks classes. The mini term is 6 weeks of classes.

Payments

AGAPE Homeschool participation is contingent upon tuition being paid on time. Please note that the facility fee, along with tuition fee and supply fee are **non refundable** unless your child never attends classes. Tuition payments and supply fees are to be made to **each teacher** individually in **FULL**. Post dated checks may be used if necessary. Please check class schedule for names of teachers. **ALL** Payments can be sent in the mail to address below or paid to one of the Registration officers on campus. Facility fee is to be made out to **AGAPE Homeschool**.

ALL payments/registrations or correspondence should be sent to:

AGAPE Homeschool

1401 SW 91 Avenue

Miami, Florida 33174

Parent Responsibilities

Parents, as a co-op we all stand in the gap for each other. In order for everything to run smoothly we ask that you

Please

- Read the AGAPE Homeschool guide book with your children
- Be sure you are on our email list and our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Agapehomeschool/>
- Be punctual
- Be committed to attending classes the entire semester
- Establish and maintain communication with the teacher
- Adhere to co-op policies in place.
- Be sure your children are supervised at all times when not in class.
- Come prepared to help in case we are short handed, many hands make light work.
- Respect the grounds of the facility by making sure your children are not roaming around.
- Be respectful and keep noise level/distractions to a minimum as church staff carries on with business.
- Encourage and build up one another with words, deeds and prayers
- Review Behavior policy with your children for outside events.
- Keep Agape Homeschool in your prayers

We understand that teens are independent and capable, but there are no exceptions to these rules to maintain rapport with the facility and avoid problems that may arise.

Illness Policy

It is our desire to provide the best possible environment for your children. Please help us make all AGAPE Homeschool functions healthy environments by not bringing your child if he/she has had any of the following symptoms in the past 24 hours:

Fever * Persistent Cough * Diarrhea * Sore throat * Vomiting * Green or murky discharge from nose or eyes * Any other symptom which could be communicable.

Thank you for your care and concern.

Volunteer Policy

There are several volunteer opportunities available for our parents to be involved in the co-op. Every parent that has a child enrolled in at least one class must be available at least **twice** per semester in a volunteer position for an hour each time. Teen volunteers who fill out a Teen Volunteer Form are able to acquire community hours with a certificate and letter at the end of semester. The volunteer coordinator will contact you once we have received your registration.

Duties:

Hall Monitor Volunteer - monitors the hall ways to make sure that children are not roaming around, horse playing or running and makes sure that classroom doors are closed shut during class.

Study Hall Volunteer- Checks in students and collects study hall fee at the door and records payments.

Field/Park Volunteer - monitors the playground and field for any unsupervised children. Makes sure there is no children roaming around in the parking lot.

Class volunteer - helps with garbage, set up or break down if needed or any help the teacher may need.

Teen volunteers - the teenagers (13-18) will be able to volunteer any hour of the co-op. Upon completion of volunteer hours at the end of semester, we will give a certificate with a letter. Teen volunteers must fill out a Teen Volunteer Form.

Snack Shack volunteer - helps to set up or break down snack shack, help any hour selling goodies at the snack shack.

Book Corner Volunteer - helps manage the book corner with sale of used books.

Behavior Policy

All children are expected to be on their best behavior and follow these guidelines while at any AGAPE function.

Please

- Be on time (or early)
- Use polite language
- Follow teacher's/leader's rules and directions the first time without argument.
- Be in appropriate areas at all times (no roaming around).
- Eat only in appropriate places, please ask if unsure.
- Treat others with Christ like kindness.
- No chewing gum in class rooms.
- No running around in the hallway or horse playing
- No flammable materials or weapons allowed
- Respect all church property in and out of class.
- Keep Agape Homeschool in your prayers

Discipline Policy

As a Christian co-op, we believe it honors God when our students are obedient to adults and respectful to their peers. Each teacher will explain their class rules to the students so that they understand what is expected of the students during the co-op. If a student is disruptive, the following process will take place:

First Offense: the student will receive a clear warning from the teacher or other adult.

Second Offense: the student is removed from the class and the student's parents will be located and notified.

Third Offense: the student and parent will meet with the AGAPE Homeschool board of directors to pray and discuss restoration of appropriate behavior in class and/or the Co-op.

Emergency Procedures

In case of a fire drill or fire, alarms will sound and all children should be safely evacuated to the playground or open field area (on the west side of the church) away from the building. All classes need to remain together with the teacher at all times. Should classes be unable to resume, teachers are to remain with their students until parents have picked up their child(ren). In case of a hurricane warning, we follow Miami Dade county protocol as to school closings.

Emergency Contact

AGAPE Homeschool is independent of the church's operation; please, we kindly ask that you **do not** contact Gateway Baptist Church regarding AGAPE Homeschool matters. All inquiries should be addressed to the AGAPE Board. If any emergencies should arise on Wednesdays you can call either Shenty Torres at 786-417-4628 or Mellisa Balaban at 305-915-3235.

- If someone is injured, report the injury as soon as possible to a Board member or coordinator in charge.
- If something is broken or breaks, please report it immediately to a Board member.

Dress Code

Although we do not require a dress code, we do request modest clothing at ALL AGAPE Homeschool events. Please keep in mind that we are a christian organization and we ask that all members dress with dignity. Students in violation will not be allowed to participate in that event.

Study Hall

Our study hall is located in Room 121. Study hall is for quiet reading or studying, so we ask that you be respectful and refrain from noises or distractions. We will charge a small fee on admission. The current fee is \$1 per hour or \$3 per day. If you would like to pay the entire semester, at the reduced rate of \$20.00 you can do so at the Study Hall check-in desk..

Book Corner

We will have a book corner with used books/curriculum for sale in the study hall, room 121.

Facility Policy:

We are so blessed to have this facility for our co-op. To be in good standing, we ask that you adhere to the following:

: The courtyard is available during co-op hours to all families. Please be respectful to the surrounding classes by keeping noise level to a minimum. We kindly ask that you pick up after yourself and leave the tables and ground clear of trash.

The small playground near the courtyard is available for children 5 and under. We ask that you please make sure your children are supervised for safety and keep the grounds free of trash.

The big playground is available during co-op hours and will close promptly at 2:30 pm. Please be sure your children are supervised for safety and keep grounds free of trash.

We are certain you will enjoy your time here and encourage families to bring in their camping chairs or picnic blankets.

Please note we are a **peanut free facility**. In order to reduce cross contamination we will not sell any peanut containing snacks at the snack shop.

Field Trip/Special Events

Please be sure to review behavior guidelines with your child(ren) prior to each field trip or event. Because we represent homeschooling to the public, it is crucial that we portray a responsible, moral and positive group.

It is our responsibility, not that of others, to guide our children in respect for the property and feelings of others. The following are some basic guidelines for AGAPE Homeschool field trips and events:

1. Be on time, no more than 10-15 minutes early.
2. Show respect for the speaker, tour guide, etc.
3. Be positive and pleasant in disciplining.
4. Use polite language at all times.
5. Respect any restriction placed on the group in regards to handling of objects/equipment, staying in designated areas, and eating or drinking.
6. Express appreciation for the activity in an appropriate manner. Thank you notes from children are a good teaching opportunity.
7. Remember, even if the field trip does not meet your or your child's expectations, demonstrate christian character toward the sponsoring facility and the field trip organizer by expressing your disappointment with good manners.
8. Parents are solely responsible for their own safety and that of their children when attending any AGAPE Homeschool functions.

CONTACT:

AGAPE Homeschool has a website: <http://www.agapehomeschool.org>
With current class information and a calendar of scheduled events. You can also view class descriptions and teacher biographies along with FAQ and much more. You can contact us by email at info@agapehomeschool.org or by phone: 1-716-71AGAPE (242-73

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible to be the Word of God and without error in the original writings, and to be the only rule and authority for faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)
- We believe in the one true God who is eternally and equally existent in three persons: God the Father; God the Son; and, God the Holy Spirit. (John 10:30; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2)
- We believe that man came by direct creation of God and not by evolution. (Genesis 1-2; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17)
- We believe that salvation is by grace alone, by believing in and accepting Christ as personal Savior. Salvation is only through the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-9)
- We believe that God showed His love for all people by sending His only Son to die for our sins so that we might have eternal life with God in heaven. (John 3:16-17; 1 John 4:7-10)

If questions arise that are not covered in the statement of faith we encourage discussion, study of the word of God, and prayer for God's direction for your personal life with respect for others. We set aside our differences in order to serve and love people. Let all you be done with love. 1 Cor. 16:14.

We know these are many do's and don'ts, but it's our desire that all AGAPE Homeschool family know and respect the expectations and guidelines of our co-op. Thank you for joining us and let's be in prayer for a wonderful semester.

In His service,
The AGAPE Homeschool Team.