

POLICY FOR MOVING UP

Our policy generally allows for movement from one class to another at two times during the year, September and June. We also move some students during the first of January, if they have birthdays close to January and there are spots available.

When moving a student much after January 1st and classes are more than half through the year, it becomes harder to transition from one class to another for those students that are moving up to the next class. It also becomes harder for the older class to have students join them that are almost a year younger. However, we will consider requests after January as space is available.

We look at many factors before we move a student to another class during mid-year, not just the fact that they have had a birthday. Often, we first try to consider those students that parents have already requested to have their child move up to the next class. We discuss the move with teachers in the Cubs, Koalas and Multi-age Bears Classes. We consider social skills, cognitive skills, maturity, and behavior. We also try to keep a balance of boys and girls whenever possible.

Yorktown is a transient area and often during the year we have spaces in different classes that come available. If we have not had requests from LLC parents, and openings become available, we will begin to ask the parents who have a child whose birthday is close to January 1st. We ask if they would be interested in having their child considered for moving up to the next class. We do not even begin the consideration process until we determine there is interest from the parents.

When a student move is made, we usually give a two week probationary period to make sure that the change is working well for the student and the class. Change in midyear is a big jump as the student has new teachers, new pupils in their classes, and different schedules and expectations. Also when students go from one class to another, there are new student/ teacher ratios. Those ratios are 1 teacher per 10 students for 2's & 3's, 1 teacher to 12 students for 4's, and 1 teacher to 20 students for Kindergarten and school age. At LLC we always stay well within these state mandated ratios.

We also have a waiting list for our classes and as a space becomes available, we go to that list to fill them. Those students who are alumni or who have had brothers or sisters in our program also get priority on the waiting list. We must maintain a balance in the classes.

When students have a birthday, parents please help them be aware that just because they are turning 3 or turning 4, they will not be moving immediately to the next class. Even if you have requested the move we may not be able to make the change. Many things as I have mentioned above are to be taken into consideration. Help them understand that most of their friends are turning that age along with them and they will all move up to the next class together in June or September.

I encourage our families to use the notebooks at the desks if they have any concerns, requests, or comments to bring to our attention. Often, the times of dropping off students or picking them up can be very busy, and oral messages and communications can get lost in the shuffle. Please do not hesitate to call us at 890-3002, or 833-0790. We also have e-mail which is: logcabin@widowmaker.com. Ms. Patsy is in at 6:15am-2:15pm, Ms. Shirley comes in at 8:15am-6:15pm Mon.-Thursday, and I am often available in the afternoon at school until 7:00pm. If you need to talk to me later, you can call at my home at 898-4473.

Please understand that we will always try to do our best to maintain a quality program at Little Log Cabin. We feel our students are very special, and we love them and constantly strive to make LLC a home away from home for our families.