

PIRATE CARE

**Parent Handbook
2025 – 2026**



**Pearl ECEC
Pearl Lower Elementary
Pearl Upper Elementary
www.pearlk12.com**

Contact Information

Director Peggy Jackson

Director's Phone 601-933-9004 / 601-497-4048

Pearl Upper Site's Phone 601-664-2246

Pearl Lower Site's Phone 601-933-9004

Early Childhood Education Center Site's Phone..... 601-932-7979

Site Information

Pre-K (ECEC Students).....Pearl ECEC

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade Students Pearl Lower Elementary

4th through 5th Grade Students Pearl Upper Elementary

Non-Discrimination Statement

Students, their families, employees, and potential employees of the Pearl Public School District are hereby notified that Pearl Public School District is an equal opportunity employer and educator who fully and actively supports equal access for all people, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, height, weight, marital status, political beliefs, national origin, veteran status, disability, genetic information or testing in employment, vocational programs, or activities as set forth in compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations. We prohibit retaliation against individuals who bring forth any complaint, orally or in writing, to the employer or the government, or against any individuals who assist or participate in the investigation of any complaint or otherwise oppose discrimination. Any person having inquiries or complaints on the basis of discrimination of gender and/or disability concerning Pearl Public School Districts' compliance with Title II, Title VI, Title IX and/or Section 504 may contact:

April Harwell
Federal Programs Director
Pearl Public School District
3375 Highway 80 East
Pearl, MS 39208
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aharwell@pearlk12.com

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Title VI and IX Coordinator
Pearl Public School District
3375 Highway 80 East
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IMPORTANT DATES 2025 – 2026

July 31	First Day of School/First Day of Pirate Care
September 1	School holiday/Pirate Care closed
October 6 – 10	School Holidays/Pirate Care closed
October 13	Parent Teacher Conferences/Student Holiday/ Pirate Care closed
November 24 – 28	Thanksgiving Holidays/Pirate Care closed
December 19	School dismisses early/ Pirate Care closed
December 19 – January 2	Christmas Holidays/Pirate Care closed
January 5	Professional Development/Student Holiday/ Pirate Care Closed
January 6	Students return to school and Pirate Care
January 19	School Holiday/Pirate Care closed
February 16	Professional Development/Student Holiday/Pirate Care closed
March 9 – 13	Spring Break/Pirate Care closed
April 3	School Holiday/Pirate Care closed
April 6	School Holiday/Pirate Care closed
May 22	School dismisses early/Pirate Care closed

FEES AND DUE DATES

Pirate Care receives no funds from the Pearl Public School District; it is self-supporting, and tuition payments cover all expenses. Every hour your child will attend as a full-time PIRATE CARE participant has been calculated and divided so that you pay the same amount monthly. This takes into account short months like December and those months with five weeks.

Registration: \$25 per child

Annual, non-refundable fee for supplies

Tuition: \$165 per month (August through April)*

- The charge covers all expenses. The month of May is factored in to give you the same payment each month. If your child does not attend in August, there will be a charge in May.
- All payments will be deducted from your account on the 1st day of each month. The draft will occur on the next business day if the 1st falls on a weekend or holiday.
- The monthly tuition remains the same regardless of the number of days your child attends as a full-time Pirate Care student.

❖ If there is a need for your child to drop out of Pirate Care, please notify the site administrator or the Pirate Care Director at pjackson@pearlk12.com.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Discipline

Discipline is maintained in PIRATE CARE through the positive approach of Assertive Discipline. Children will be informed of all rules and regulations. When a child disobeys, discipline will be handled in the following manner:

1. The child will be given a verbal warning.
2. If misbehavior continues, the child will be removed from the group for a short period of **time out**.
3. If the problem behavior continues, the child will be removed from the group for the remainder of the activity time, and the matter will be discussed with the parents at pick-up. When the site administrator deems it necessary, a discipline action report will be completed and submitted to the Pirate Care Director.
4. A second Discipline Action Report will automatically constitute a parent conference; **a third report will result in dismissal from the program.**
5. Pirate Care will adhere to all policies and procedures in the Pearl Public School District Student/Parent Handbook.

Please inform the Site Administrator if anything happens at school or home that could affect the child's behavior.

Parents are expected to work with all the Pirate Care staff to help the children develop self-discipline. **Pirate Care reserves the right to dismiss any child that fails to adjust adequately. If a student is dismissed from the program for misbehavior, there will be no refund.**

If a conflict arises, parents must direct their concerns to the Pirate Care Director or Site Administrator, not another employee.

Homework

Pirate Care will provide a time and setting conducive for students to do their homework. Staff members will provide assistance in the form of clarification of instruction and supervision. Our goal is to encourage the children to stay on task and work productively so that, hopefully, their work will be complete at the end of the homework session.

Parents should understand that Pirate Care is **not a tutoring program**; sites are staffed to work with students in a group setting and, therefore, we cannot devote one-on-one assistance to each child. Because of the school setting, Most children do well and have little problem with homework completion. Time limits for homework sessions will be set according to age/grade level appropriateness. *The lower grades will allow a 30-minute homework session.

It's the student's responsibility to acknowledge that they have homework.

Pirate Care will conduct daily, supervised homework sessions for those students having homework. *Homework is only checked for completion.* **Please review your child's homework for correctness.**

Clothing

Students are required to remain in school clothing during Pirate Care. There will be no changing of clothing unless supervised by the parent.

Personal Belongings

Pirate Care will not be responsible for toys, games, jewelry, balls, etc. Any items left at Pirate Care will be placed in our lost and found. Please periodically check our lost and found for items belonging to your child.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

1. Each child will be "checked in" by the Site Administrator/Instructor every day.
2. To ensure the safety of every child, parents must sign the child out daily (noting the time) on the attendance sheet in the program room.
3. Children will **ONLY** be released to those individuals listed on the release form filled out at registration. Any exceptions must be put in writing to the Site Administrator. A photo ID may be required. Be sure to include individuals who need to pick your child up for dance, music, soccer, baseball, etc. If you need to add individuals during the year, please do so with the Site Administrator.
4. Children may not be picked up from Pirate Care before 2:30 (2:00 on Wednesdays). This allows us to get them checked in and accounted for that day. This also gives all buses and vans time to clear the parking lot.
5. Students need to be picked up from Pirate Care by **5:45 p.m.** A fee of \$1.00 per minute per child will be charged for late pick-up beginning at **5:46 p.m.**, according to the clock in the program room. Payment is due within one school day. Pirate Care reserves the right to terminate any chronic offenders.

*** Ensure all your contact phone numbers are correct and updated at all times. You can give this information to the site administrator when you pick your child up at school if there are any changes.**

EMERGENCIES

Medical

Medical emergencies will be handled in accordance with the medical authorization forms completed by the parents at the time of registration and on file with the Site Administrator.

Parents should make Pirate Care staff aware of any medications taken regularly by their child, allergies, and other pertinent information relevant to the health of the student.

Tornadoes and Fire

The Pirate Care site will hold regular drills for these types of emergencies so that all students will be prepared.

Early Dismissal of School Due to Emergency

In the event that school is dismissed early (due to weather or other emergencies), PIRATE CARE will close. ***Parents will be notified via calling system, radio, and/or TV. Your child will be dismissed from their school and must be picked up at their school.***

Early Dismissal of Pirate Care Due to Emergency

In the event that Pirate Care is dismissed early (due to weather or other emergencies), parents will be notified via automated calling system. Please make sure to notify Pirate Care and your child's school of any change in contact information (phone numbers and email addresses). Be sure to monitor television, radio, district Facebook and Twitter, and website (www.pearlk12.com) during times of inclement weather.



The Mission of Pearl Public School District is
to prepare each student to become a
lifelong learner, achieve individual goals,
and positively impact a global society.