

JOSIAHKIDS



THE SCHOOL OF YOUNG LEADERS

2022-2023 School Year

Parent Handbook

Last Revised / July 29, 2022





JosiahKids Incorporated

Mailing Address

302 Satellite Blvd NE,
Suite C 132 #270, Suwanee, Georgia 30024

Phone: 770.282.3775

Email: contactus@josiahkids.com

Website: josiahkids.com

Mission

JosiahKids Incorporated is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to educate, empower, and equip young students and TEENS in the local community in the areas of faith, leadership, community service, and the arts.

EDUCATE

EMPOWER

EQUIP

Table of Contents

Our Mission	2
Welcome	4
History	4
Physical Meeting Location	4
Licensing and Liability Insurance	4
The Vision	5
Statement of Faith	6
Directory	7
General Program Description	8, 9
Class Schedule	10
Parking, Arrival - Departure and Sign In/Out Procedures	10
Dietary Restrictions	11
Parent Participation	11
Selection Process	11
Electronic Devices	11
Tuition	12
Scholarships	12
Donations	12
Video and Photograph Release	12
Awards and Recognition	13
Attendance	13
Withdrawal	13
Confidentiality	13
Safety and Security	14
Weather and Emergency Related Closings	14
Illness and Medical Treatment	14

Welcome to JosiahKids!

The following information is intended to inform and guide you as we work together to provide the very best developmental opportunities for your child. This parent information booklet provides you with important information regarding our program.

History

One night Marlene Maina had a dream and woke up with the desire to invest in their daughters' personal development and the Word of God. The thought to teach her two children, gradually grew into teaching kids all over the world. On September 15, 2018, JosiahKids officially opened its doors to what was at first, a simple neighborhood discipleship classroom. From eight students to eleven and then from 18 to now more than 40, JosiahKids has continued to grow in the mission of educating, empowering, and equipping young students and teens in the areas of faith, leadership, community service and the performing arts. But what was the driving force behind this passion in Marlene's heart? It was Marlene's personal story.

"As my mother's casket was being lowered into the ground, I watched in slow motion as my father threw his hands up in a rage and stormed off—for good. My broken heart could not be comforted. My eyes stayed on my younger sisters only 11, 12 and 15, weeping uncontrollably, their weak knees giving way. Nothing could describe the dread that gripped me as we slowly walked away from that grave into what felt like a black hole of a future. We were homeless, trapped in hopelessness, and successfully silenced by the shame of losing—everything. Two things I simultaneously longed for: death or a place—a place where seeds of hope could stand the chance to germinate out of the darkness of my young broken heart." Marlene Maina, Founder JosiahKids

Newton and Marlene Maina founded JosiahKids because they deeply believe that every child deserves to cross the finish line of childhood, loved, supported, and empowered to make a meaningful life for themselves, as well as a meaningful difference within their spheres of influence.

Physical Meeting Location: JosiahKids uses the *Influencers Church* facility located at (2838 Duluth Highway, Duluth, Georgia 30096) for our in-person learning on the two Saturdays we meet every month. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** This location does not receive physically mailed correspondence. Please send all communication through our official email address, at (contactus@josiahkids.com), call us directly, or use our official mailing address: JosiahKids Incorporated: 302 Satellite Blvd NE, Suite C 132 #270, Suwanee, Georgia 30024.

Licensing and Liability Insurance: JosiahKids Incorporated is not a childcare facility. Our program is not required to be licensed by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. The program is exempt from state licensure requirements. We are a young 501(c)(3) that does not yet carry liability insurance. Acknowledgment of this information is included in our enrollment application for admission.

The Vision

“To raise a community of virtuous, service-minded leaders, committed to reinvesting their acquired success into their communities and spheres of influence.”

When we started JosiahKids, we thought of three main things. One, what critical convictions, values, skills, virtues, and knowledge should a child be getting in their formative years that they would not otherwise get unless taught intentionally? Two, how could we help families invest those critical values without the burden of exuberant costs or the strain on the bandwidth that has kept families running from one activity to the next across town? Three, how could we leverage our network of amazing value-driven leaders to successfully build A CENTRAL PLACE for our community of students to grow, elevate creativity, develop a healthy self-image, be inspired to dream, serve others, and be fully equipped for the type of world they will soon be walking into?

The answers to those key questions are the foundation for the model we used to build JosiahKids. This was the gap we felt God was calling us to fill. We hope you will allow us the honor to build, empower and inspire your little ones into the fearless God-fearing leaders our world so desperately needs.

Newton & Marlene
Founders, JosiahKids

Statement of Faith

We believe in one God, the Father -YAHWEH- the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, (Light of the World, Bread of Life, The Door, The Good Shepherd, The Way-The Truth-and-The Life, The Resurrection and The Life, The Vine) begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father. Through HIM all things were made.

For us men and our salvation, Jesus came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day, He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father and serves as High Priest for His blood-bought church. He (Jesus) will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in The Holy Spirit. He is the Third Person of the Trinity, co-equal with God, actively working in the world and the lives of God's people. We believe that the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son still quickens the dead and brings men back to life. We believe that the sacred writings of the Scriptures have been supernaturally preserved by God and can be trusted to be the final authority for every believer in Christ. We believe that ONLY God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit should be worshiped and glorified.

We believe that what the Living God has spoken through the Prophets is immutable, unchangeable, and decisively true. We believe in the second coming of our LORD Jesus Christ. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We believe that God is to be honored and revered as holy and that men should handle the Word of God in like manner.

We believe that Christ did not come to condemn the world but to save it.

We believe in eternal life for those who believe and put their faith and hope in Jesus with the promise of heaven.

Parents and guardians should be advised that our program is 100% aligned with the values, convictions, beliefs, and teachings of the Bible. Notwithstanding, parents of students from all walks of life are all welcome at JosiahKids.

Directory

Main Number JosiahKids	770-282-3775 contactus@josiahkids.com
Maina, Marlene Founder & Executive Director	770-282-3775 marlenemaina@josiahkids.com
Maina, Newton CFO & Co-Founder	770-282-3862 newtonmaina@josiahkids.com
Stackhouse, Sharae Program Director	770-282-3697 sharae@josiahkids.com

Volunteers & Staff

All JosiahKids volunteers, teachers, coaches, and staff members have undergone a criminal background check to ensure the safety of the families of our young students and teens. Volunteers are defined as individuals 18-years or older, vetted, and appropriately background approved to voluntarily serve in one or more areas within the organization. Adult volunteers are not certified counselors. A volunteer's role is therefore limited to compassionate listening and appropriately communicating concerns to the child's legal guardians, parents, or the proper authorities where necessary. Each staff member, coach, and volunteer who works at JosiahKids is required to read, sign, and agree to comply with a (legal/ethical) code of conduct that pledges to protect the minors our organization was founded to serve.

General Program Description

TOPICS & PARTNERSHIPS: 2022/2023

2022/2023 Master Calendar	
9/10	<i>Orientation</i>
9/17	<i>Episode 1</i>
10/1	<i>Episode 2</i>
10/15	<i>Episode 3</i>
11/5	<i>Buford Harvest Run of Show</i>
11/12	<i>The Buford Harvest</i>
12/3	<i>Episode 6</i>
12/17	<i>Fun Day</i>
1/21	<i>Episode 8</i>
2/4	<i>Episode 9</i>
2/18	<i>Episode 10</i>
3/4	<i>Community Service</i>
3/18	<i>Episode 12</i>
4/1	<i>Public Speaking Debate</i>
4/15	<i>Episode 14</i>
5/6	<i>End of Year Run of Show</i>
5/20	<i>End of Year Ceremony</i>

Personal Finance: Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace Curriculum for our Middle & High School students

Fitness: A partnership with Amazing Athletes of Greater Atlanta for our Elementary, Middle & High School students

Worship: A partnership between JosiahKids and Valley of Praise for our Elementary, Middle & High School students

Leadership & Development: Guest Speakers will teach on the topics (listed below) for all of our students

Bible: JosiahKids Leaders will be on a Bible-teaching rotation this school year on the topics (listed below)

Connections: Guest Speakers & JK Leaders will focus on practical topics (listed below) for all of our students

Public Speaking: JosiahKids Leaders will instruct our Elementary School students in Public speaking this fall

Performing Arts: JosiahKids Instructors will facilitate dance and music classes for a select group of students this fall

LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT TOPICS	BIBLE TOPICS	PRACTICAL TOPICS & SKILLS FOR CONNECTIONS
Self-Leadership: The Leader’s Private Disciplines	The Discipline of Purity	Fashion How-to’s: Pairing Outfits, Jewelry, Shoes
Communication & The Leader	The Reward of Unity	Organizing Tips: Clothes, Rooms, Assignments
The Magnitude of Attitude	Obedience	Mental Health & Digital Media Wellness
The Law of the Inner Circle: <i>Choosing, Attracting & Nurturing Healthy Relationships</i>	The Battlefield of The Mind	Planning affordable family— Outings, Vacations, Game Nights
The Law of Authenticity	Salvation & The Great Commission	Etiquette Tips & Tricks: Setting A Table, Entertaining Friends
A Leader’s Credibility	The Honor of Giving	Health & Nutrition Workshop: Simple Meals & Healthy Snacks
The Discipline of Work	The BIG 6 Besetting Sins: Jealousy, Pride, Anger, Lying, Unbelief, and Lust	Résumé & Bio Writing, References, Experience, and Accomplishments
The Leader’s Character	Humility	Self-Care: For Boys / For Girls
The Law of Sacrifice	Love	Middle & High School Distractions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Self-Image ✓ Screens ✓ Substance Abuse ✓ Sexual Intimacy

22/23 Class Schedule

ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS = 9:20 AM				
		HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
9:30am	(20min)	Worship	Worship	Worship
9:50am	(20min)	Bible	Bible	Bible
10:10am	(20min)	Prayer	Prayer	Prayer
10:30am	(15min)	BREAK		

		MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
10:45am	(30min)	Leadership & Development	Leadership & Development
11:15am	(30min)	Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace	Elementary School Connections
11:45am	(30min)	Middle & High School Connections	Public Speaking
12:15pm	(15min)	BREAK	

SPECIALS		
12:30 – 1:30pm		
PERFORMING ARTS (Select Students)	YEARBOOK (Select Students)	FITNESS (All Students)
ROOM RESET + CLOSING PRAYER = 1:30 PM		

IMPORTANT NOTE

Sessions are listed in Eastern Standard Time (EST) -- Atlanta, Georgia Local Time.

Parking, Arrival - Departure and Sign In/Out Procedures

Parents are strongly encouraged to observe the speed limits and directional signs in place. We believe that all mentoring is already in session for our students by the courtesy and honor parents afford each other in the parking lot and on the premises we use for our program. During drop-off, we ask that parents kindly park their cars, walk their children into the main sanctuary, and sign them in with us BEFORE taking off. The same procedures will apply when picking up students. Parents should plan on formally checking out their children, no later than 1:30 p.m. from the Chapel (main Sanctuary).

IMPORTANT: A sign-in and sign-out sheet maintained by the program director must be signed when the child is dropped off and/or picked up. This is a state requirement. All attendance records will be preserved for a minimum of two years.

Dietary Restrictions

All dietary restrictions and allergies must be clearly communicated on each student's application (and any new concerns should be relayed to us in writing) by sending an email to the Program Director's attention to: contactus@josiahkids.com

Parent Participation

To eliminate pressure and expectations on family resources and time, JosiahKids asks that our guardians and parents avail themselves to participate in the following events:

- 1) Our Annual Community Service Events (Early Spring Event / March)
- 2) Our Annual Youth Leadership Awards Ceremony—The Buford HARVEST (Fall Event / November)
- 3) Our Last Day of Class (Late Spring Event / May)

The exact dates can be found on our website (josiahkids.com).

Selection Process

JosiahKids is committed to reserving at least thirty percent of our admissions for families that are underserved, underrepresented, or living below the poverty line. Young students and teens from economically disadvantaged circumstances, and those facing other daunting and complex challenges such as language barriers, separation by immigration policies, and poverty are welcome at JosiahKids. Also, students being raised by single-parent families, families underrepresented in higher education, and professional careers, with few examples of academic persistence, have a special place in our hearts at JosiahKids.

To ensure the opportunities continue to go to families and students who are likely to make the most of the investment in our program, JosiahKids takes the selection process seriously. These opportunities will be made available to students AND parents who demonstrate passion, commitment to growth, learning readiness, and an appreciation of the value our program offers. Accepting a student or family that is not committed means preventing a more suitable young person from getting a life-changing opportunity.

Electronic Devices

JosiahKids has adopted a technology-free policy-for the hours our students are in session. Technology not permitted while in session (unless otherwise specified) includes cell phones, tablets, and smartwatches. This policy will allow our students to focus while instructors, teachers, and guest speakers are teaching. This ensures that students are fully engaged in all educational workshops and getting all they can with the benefit of being fully present to build meaningful relationships with other students. This policy will also ensure that students do not distract or share inappropriate content with other students in our program. Parents who strongly prefer to have their children's devices in-house for emergency purposes will be advised to check in all devices with the Program Director when the child is signed in.

Cost of Tuition (Year 5)

Upper & Lower School (Ages 7-17) = \$300 (per/year)

Payments made to JosiahKids are applied toward the organization's operating budget. The first \$100 of the tuition is non-refundable and must accompany the application.

Withdrawals

Under this policy, students who officially withdraw from JosiahKids by canceling his or her registration in writing through the Program Director's Office before the first day of class as designated in the official JosiahKids' Master Calendar, are entitled to a full refund of the amount owed for the school year (excluding the \$100 non-refundable deposit). A student who officially withdraws from JosiahKids through the Program Director's Office after the first day of class is entitled to a refund of 50% of the tuition paid for the school year, whether or not he or she has attended any class(es), excluding the \$100 non-refundable deposit.

After the end of the fourth week of the school year, no tuition or registration fees will be refunded, whether or not the student has attended any class(es).

Scholarships

Though the cost of tuition is very minimal, we do realize that not every family can come up with the funding needed to apply for the program. Parents are welcome to inquire about the availability of a scholarship when submitting an application for their students. Once the application is reviewed, parents will be notified of the availability of a scholarship. A ten-month payment plan is also available to assist in making the tuition payments manageable for all families who need it.

Donations

Donations are always welcome. These help us advance the overall mission as well as support the families that are not able to finance their child's annual tuition. Our donations help us with purchasing books, Bibles, awards, certificates, website fees, printing t-shirts, snacks, food, and other rental fees. Parents and friends of the program are encouraged to make a donation on our website (josiahkids.com) no matter the size of the gift, as every little bit does truly count. All donations made to JosiahKids are tax deductible.

Video and Photograph Release

Because of the nature of our mission, JosiahKids does ask for a photograph and video release consent on our enrollment applications. An authorization form granting permission/consent to (JosiahKids Incorporated) to take, record and publish the photographs and videos taken of the undersigned minor child for the use of JosiahKids' teaching, discipleship websites, and any other training or stewardship purpose will be among the forms parents will be asked to sign at the beginning of each school year.

Awards and Recognition

JosiahKids has been making a difference in the lives of young students through a wide range of enrichment programs since September of 2018. Each fall, JosiahKids students will have the opportunity to be part of our Annual Youth Leadership Awards Ceremony (The Buford Harvest). This event helps us recognize the amazing achievements of hardworking stand-out students in various categories including, innovation, servant leadership, community service, athletics, and courage from around the world. Parents, teachers, and school officials are encouraged to nominate students for the category that best fits the nominated student's achievements. All honorees must be nominated by an adult 21 years or older. Students do not have to be a part of JosiahKids to be nominated or to attend.

Attendance

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (Bright from The Start) requires that JosiahKids maintain attendance records of all children and all parental acknowledgment forms on-site while a child is enrolled **AND for one year after a child is no longer enrolled**. Parents are therefore required to notify JosiahKids (no later than 9:00 am on the morning of the session) of their child's absence. All absences must be sent in writing to the Program Director's attention: contactus@josiahkids.com.

Withdrawing A Child

Notice of plans to withdraw a child from the program should be requested as early as possible and in writing. A child may be dis-enrolled from the program if, in the judgment of the teachers and administrative staff, the child is at risk, or places others at risk of harm due to physical or behavioral conditions that are beyond the control of the program. JosiahKids will communicate openly with parents to ensure a collaborative, Christ-honoring approach is used to support the child before any action is taken to withdraw the child from our programs.

JosiahKids will provide parents with written notice if such action should need to occur. Parents needing to withdraw their children from the program must do so in writing by sending an email to the Program Director's attention to: contactus@josiahkids.com.

Confidentiality

Personal, financial, medical, and family information will be held in confidence and not shared outside the program beyond those you have entrusted with the information as responsible for administrative purposes. Our staff is, however, professionally, and legally obligated to report suspected child abuse and neglect, including identifying information and specifics of the child's concern.

With parental consent on each student's application, as well as this parent handbook (a) photographs and video recordings of children may be used for digital learning, public relations, website graphics, newspapers, and other publications; and (b) pictures may be taken of JosiahKids events such as birthdays, award ceremonies, community service events, holiday activities and special celebrations.

Safety and Security

Though we only have our students for a few hours twice a month, JosiahKids recognizes the importance of having a safe environment for your child's learning. Please follow all pick-up and drop-off procedures to ensure the safety of your child. If faced with life-threatening, unsafe, or suspicious behavior, JosiahKids will immediately seek help from law enforcement by dialing 911.-

Weather and Emergency-Related Closings

Parents can expect us to remain in session per our posted schedule online. However, our leadership team may determine when it is necessary to close or restrict operations because of winter storms, tornados, power failures, or other emergencies. If conditions or events require closing while we are in operation, parents will be contacted directly by email, text, or phone call. Children will remain under supervision in a safe place until picked up by a trusted/authorized adult. We will relay information regarding closings directly to parents through email and text message.

Illness and Medical Treatment

If your child becomes sick in the evening, please send us an email addressed to the Program Director at contactus@josiahkids.com and let us know that his/her absence is due to illness. Parents should not drop off a child who is unwell or who has been diagnosed with a communicable disease (example: strep, head lice, pink eye, COVID-19, or impetigo) until a doctor has provided clearance. A child, who has had a fever of 101+ degrees, must remain home until the child has been fever free for more than 24 hours. All known health conditions AND medical restrictions of your child must be disclosed on the formal application each parent has to complete during enrollment. A waiver must also be signed at the beginning of every school year before any child can begin taking classes at JosiahKids. JosiahKids does not have a qualified doctor or nurse on site that can administer medication, so please allow your children the proper time they need to get well before resuming attendance.

Thank you, parents, for entrusting us with your children. We are excited to partner with each of you and look forward to seeing your little ones grow, blossom, and transform into the leaders and destiny shapers we all know they were created to be. As always, your feedback, suggestions and ideas are welcome on how we can continue to improve and become better as an organization. Also, should you be interested in serving as a volunteer at JosiahKids, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Welcome to JosiahKids!