

Guidelines for Sponsoring a New Family

Immanuel Christian School

A. Parent Suggestions

1. Choose one day a week for your family to pray for new students coming into the grades your child is in.
2. Have the new child over to your house or have them accompany you on an outing at least two or three times before school starts if possible. (This depends on when you are assigned to be a sponsor.) You might plan to meet at the pool, for example.
3. Try to introduce the new child to as many of his future classmates as feasible (two or three kids would be nice).
4. Help orient the new child's parents to the school (i.e. homework policy, Parent Service Hours, athletic programs, Fun Lunch program) – even help to get a carpool organized!
5. Come to the Meet & Greet together and attend the Back to School picnic with your new family.

B. Buddy Suggestions

We assign one buddy for each new student in grades 2-8. It is not guaranteed that buddies will be in the same class section, but we will do our best to try to do this.

1. Pray for new students in your grade over the summer.
2. Include your buddy in some of your activities over the summer.
3. Make sure that the new child feels welcome by being friendly. Sit with your buddy at lunch for the first week or so.
4. Take your buddy on a tour of the school during the summer.
5. Ask a lot of questions about where they are from and what they like to do. This will help you to connect them to other kids in the class. For example, if they like to dance or play soccer, you can introduce them to other kids who have the same interests.
6. Make sure that they are *not alone!* Watch for them in the gym, wait for them outside class at their locker or by the backpacks and invite them to join you and your friends as you go between classes, eat lunch or hang out at recess. This applies to the *entire first quarter* unless or until you see that they are comfortable with another group of kids and do not need your help anymore! Even so, they may still need you at other times during the day.

C. Recognition

We will have a special lunch for buddies and their new student buddy once school starts.