

Guidelines for Sponsoring a New Family

Immanuel Christian School

Parent Suggestions

- Choose one day a week for your family to pray for new students coming into the grade your child is in.
- 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.) Example: Plan to meet at the pool, the park, for ice cream, the mall, etc.
- Try to introduce the new child to as many of his future classmates as feasible (two or three kids would be nice).
- Help orient the new child's parents to the school (i.e. homework policy, Parent Service Hours, athletic programs, Fun Lunch program, help set up a carpool)
- Come to the Meet & Greet together and meet up at the Back to School Picnic in September.

Buddy Suggestions: We will try to assign one buddy for each new child in grades 2-8. Families with more than one child enrolled in the school may have more than one sponsor. It is not guaranteed that buddies will be in the same class section, but we will do our best to try to do this.

- Pray for new students in your grade over the summer.
- Include your buddy in some of your activities over the summer.
- Make sure that the new child feels welcome by being friendly. Sit with your buddy at lunch for the first week or so.
- Take your buddy on a tour of the school during the summer.
- 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.
- 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.

Recognition

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

Interested? Questions? Ready to sign up? Email lauren.umble@icsva.org

Thank you in advance!

WE WANT YOU TO BE A BUDDY

(You were new once, too! 😊)

WHO: Any ICS students in 2nd – 8th grades who are ready and willing to make new friends.

WHY: To help new ICS students feel welcome.

HOW: Call the school office or email right away and ask to be assigned to a new student. (703) 941-1220

(Parent participation required)

WHAT TO DO:

Call your buddy, invite them over this summer to go to the pool or to a movie, take them on a tour of the school, eat lunch with them at school, introduce them to your friends and be a friend.



WHEN: This summer throughout the first quarter of the school year.

REWARD: You will make a difference for a new friend and share a pizza lunch with him or her in the fall.