Abingdon Cooperative Preschool

BABYSITTING EXCHANGE

SIGN-UP AGREEMENT

**PARENT NAME:**

**CHILD NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**TEL No.:**

***Purpose of the Babysitting Exchange***

The purpose of the Babysitting Exchange is to provide members with quality babysitting services without spending money. Only current members of the Abingdon Cooperative Preschool (ACP) may join the Babysitting Exchange, however once you join, you may remain in the group even after your child has graduated. All children being watched must be children of a ACP member (and not additional children, such as cousins, neighbors, etc.).

***How Does the Babysitting Exchange Work?***

* Once a child is signed up for the Babysitting Exchange, the parent will receive a set of 20 tickets, each worth one half hour (30 minutes) or part thereof. These tickets are basically a form of currency used to ‘pay’ the person who babysits your child. For example, if you require 90 minutes of babysitting time, you will give 3 tickets to the babysitter.
* If two or more children are signed up by one parent, the parent will receive one set of 20 tickets per child. Please remember that you require the appropriate number of tickets per child for ‘payment’: for example, if 2 of your children are babysat for one hour, you will give the babysitter 4 tickets.
* Members may arrange babysitting to take place at either home. However, if the babysitter drives to the other member’s home, she shall be compensated with coupons (e.g., 30 minutes travel = 1 coupon, or 1 hour travel = 2 coupons).
* Members are individually responsible for arranging their own babysitter within the Exchange for the time needed, using the contact information supplied to all Exchange members. It is recommended that an Exchange member send out an e-mail message as far in advance as possible to solicit response from other members. Please bear in mind that members may not be able to respond in time to requests for babysitters made very close to the time the babysitter is needed.
* If a member is late to collect their child from a babysitter, or late returning to their own home if their child is being babysat there, s/he shall pay the relevant amount of extra coupon(s) to the babysitter. ‘Late’ is defined as more than 15 (fifteen) minutes past the agreed time.
* Members are responsible for their own coupons. Lost coupons will not be replaced. Damaged coupons may be exchanged for new ones.
* Members who quit the Exchange must turn in all unused tickets and may not pass them on to other members.
* A volunteer coordinator position will rotate amongst the members. The coordinator’s responsibilities include updating the Yahoo Group with new members, handing out tickets, and emailing forms to new members (for the new member to fill out and print themselves and place in the ACPBE folder at the Playgroup). This position may be shared (i.e. one volunteer does the Yahoo update and another handles forms & tickets).

***Safety and Care Standards (in signing this document, the parent agrees to the following safety and care standards)***

* Each member will give the sitter a written list of care instructions for their child(ren), highlighting allergies or medical conditions, feeding instructions, and emergency contacts EACH TIME THEIR CHILD IS LEFT WITH A BABYSITTER.
* When a participant in this Babysitting Exchange agrees to watch another family’s child(ren), they are PERSONALLY AND DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE for the care of that child(ren). They must not transfer care to relatives, friends, other babysitters, neighbors, etc., except in extreme emergency.
* If there is an illness in either family, the participants must inform each other so that informed and responsible decisions can be made about the sitting arrangement.
* The sitter will not take children out in a car without prior approval of the parent, except in an extreme emergency. Seat belts and child restraints/seats must be used at all times.
* All homes are to be child-proofed to the best of each family’s ability.
* There is to be no physical discipline of any kind. And suspected neglect or abuse will be grounds for exclusion from the Babysitting Exchange, and may further be reported to the proper authorities.
* It is expected that each family will provide the same careful and gentle supervision that they give their own children.
* Current members of the Abingdon Cooperative Preschool will have up-to-date CPR & 1st Aid certifications. Please remember that since former members may be in the Exchange, their certifications may have expired. If this is a concern, it is the responsibility of the parent requesting a sit to ask about the status of certifications.

***IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER***

I understand that this Babysitting Exchange is considered an outside and independent group from the Abingdon Cooperative Preschool. As such, I understand and agree that the Abingdon Cooperative Preschool cannot be held responsible for any accident or injury that occurs as a result of babysitting activity.

I further understand that the contact information supplied to me through the Babysitting Exchange is for use exclusively within the Exchange and I agree not to distribute this information to any outside/third parties.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent Date