

Timberlin Creek Elementary
“BEYOND THE BELL”
Extended Day Program
Policies and Procedures
2026-2027



Wendy Russ
“Beyond the Bell” Coordinator
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“BEYOND THE BELL” GOALS:

- Create a nurturing, safe and positive environment “Beyond the Bell”.
- Offer an easily accessible and convenient Extended Day Program for families of Timberlin Creek Elementary School.
- Offer a variety of developmentally appropriate activities that correlate with the student’s grade, age level, and interests.
- Meet or exceed the expectations of our parents and the students using our services.

“BEYOND THE BELL” STAFF:

Timberlin Creek Elementary “Beyond the Bell” staff are responsible and caring adults who enjoy the

company of children and who can provide the support and guidance your child needs when absent from your presence. Your children will have the comfort and security of knowing they will see the same warm smiles to greet them on a daily basis. Welcoming with words of encouragement, our staff is dedicated to ensuring that your child's time at school "Beyond the Bell" is safe, fun, and stimulating.

Beyond the Bell is a SJCS D program which requires the students to follow the same policies and procedures which are in effect during the school day. Our "Beyond the Bell" staff is held to the same high standards of excellence which are required for your children throughout their TCE school day experience. At all times, there will be someone on-site during "Beyond the Bell" hours, certified in First Aid and CPR. All staff will submit to fingerprinting and background check.

"Beyond the Bell" staff are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the "Beyond the Bell" Program. They will monitor daily routines and schedules, ensuring that all students are consistently accounted for and having fun while being nurtured and excited about learning. "Beyond the Bell" staff reports directly to the "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator.

The "Beyond the Bell" staff and coordinator work together to develop, implement, manage and evaluate the "Beyond the Bell" program.

Any concerns you have regarding the program should be directed to the "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator.

"BEYOND THE BELL" COORDINATOR:

The "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator will oversee the operations of the "Beyond the Bell" Program and communicate with the parents and staff. The "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator reports directly to the Timberlin Creek Elementary School Principal. The Coordinator will keep the Principal informed of the "Beyond the Bell" activities and operations.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Early Birds (before school): Monday – Friday As early as 6:30 am
and no later than 7:55 am

After school: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri: 2:50 pm – 6:00 pm

Wednesday 1:50 pm – 6:00 pm

SERVICE OPTIONS

EARLY BIRDS:

Our morning program for Early Birds begins at 6:30 am, drop off for this program ends at 7:55am. Low key activities prepare your children for the day of learning.

During Early Birds, your child has the opportunity to eat a warm and nutritious breakfast from our TCE cafeteria or you may bring your own. Breakfast is served in the TCE cafeteria from 8:00 am – 8:25 am. Breakfast is not included in the Early Birds fee; payment for breakfast/lunch is paid directly to the cafeteria and is placed in your child's individual account

the same as his/her lunch money. Menu, online cafeteria payment information and free/reduced meal information may be found at: [www-tce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/parents/Eagle Cafe](http://www-tce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/parents/EagleCafe).

FULL-TIME:

Students who attend Beyond the Bell two to five days per week are considered full-time and therefore, subject to full-time fees. Snacks are included in the fees. Our fees are outlined later in this handout. We also offer a Wednesday only option.

WEDNESDAY ONLY:

All St. Johns County School District elementary schools have a modified schedule on Wednesdays wherein students are dismissed at 1:50 p.m. For your convenience, we offer a **Wednesday Only** service.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Extra-curricular, fee-based activities are offered by vendors that are contracted by the St. Johns County School District. These activities are offered to first through fifth grade students who are enrolled in Beyond the Bell as well as those who are not. These activities require a monthly fee and must also be paid in advance of services rendered. "Beyond the Bell" acts as a bridge between you and the vendor offering these additional services as a convenience for our parents and students. Students who are not currently enrolled in Beyond the Bell pay an additional \$25 Registration Fee to attend the extracurricular, fee-based activities. These activities may include, but are not limited to Karate, Drama, Pottery and Dance and may change each year. These activities are elective, fee-based and do not begin until September. The fee for the class is due at the time of registration to reserve your child's spot within the class.

The extracurricular, fee-based activities do represent a contracted commitment on your part. Each student has one paid trial month to decide whether to continue taking the class for the rest of the school year or to drop the class. If your child decides to commit to taking the class, **parents will be financially responsible for the monthly class fee for the entire session whether or not the child attends.** Please discuss the participation policies for these activities carefully with your child. Please avoid picking up your child early on the day of their scheduled activity.

ELIGIBILITY:

Our "Beyond the Bell" Program and certain fee-based activities are open to Timberlin Creek Elementary children between the ages of Kindergarten– 5th Grade.

Children will be admitted based upon their needs and appropriateness of the program for the child. If determined that staff training, staff to child ratio, or facilities used create an undesirable situation

for your child, other children or the staff, the “Beyond the Bell” Coordinator will advise the Principal and we will request that you choose an alternative childcare option. Please note that all students must be toileting independently. Our staff cannot safely monitor students and care for bathroom needs.

KINDERGARTEN STAGGERED START

Kindergarten begins the year on a staggered start schedule. “Beyond the Bell” will work directly with the Kindergarten teachers to assure that your child arrives at “Beyond the Bell” when they attend school the first week. Kindergarten students will be escorted from their classrooms to their “Beyond the Bell” group leaders until they have a full understanding of our schedule and routine. We know this is a great time of transition for both child and parent, please be assured your child’s safety and feeling of security is our priority.

REGISTRATION

Registration will open on a first come basis on April 1, 2026. By completing the registration, you agree to abide by the BTB Policies and Procedures. Please note, your Beyond the Bell account must be current to register for the following school year.

Registration Fee for Beyond the Bell:

There is a one-time, non-refundable registration fee of \$85/ per child per school year. Registration allows/ensures full-time and part-time enrollment in our Beyond the Bell program. The annual registration fee is required for ALL new and returning students, and no employee or sibling discounts apply to the registration fee.

Registration Fee for Extra-Curricular Activities:

If your child is not registered in Beyond the Bell, however, wishes to attend any of our extra-curricular activities a \$25 registration fee is required the first time you register for extracurricular activities each year. The annual registration fee is non-refundable and is required for both new and returning students. Registration for contracted, fee-based activities does not begin until September. Registration forms will be available on the Beyond the Bell website.

PROGRAM FEES: PENDING SJCS D BOARD APPROVAL



Timberlin Creek Extended Day Schedule of Fees

**TCE
Extended
Day
2026-2027
School Year**

AUG 2026					Due	Installment covers care through:	
M	T	W	T	F	1	July 15th	Aug 10th - Sep 2nd
3	4	5	6	7	2	Aug 15th	Sep 3rd - Sep 30th
10	11	12	13	14	3	Sep 15th	Oct 1st - Oct 27th
17	18	19	20	21	4	Oct 15th	Oct 28th - Nov 30th
24	25	26	27	28	5	Nov 15th	Dec 1st - Jan 8th
31					6	Dec 15th	Jan 11th - Feb 4th
					7	Jan 15th	Feb 5th - Mar 4th
					8	Feb 15th	Mar 5th - Apr 8th
					9	Mar 15th	Apr 9th - May 4th
					10	Apr 15th	May 5th - May 28th
					Full-time Care		
						# of children	
					Morning Care		
					\$190.00	1	
					\$250.00	2	
					\$310.00	3	
					After Care		
					\$330.00	1	
					\$460.00	2	
					\$590.00	3	
					Before and After		
					\$370.00	1	
					\$520.00	2	
					\$670.00	3	
					Wednesday Only		
					\$170.00	1	
					\$220.00	2	
					\$270.00	3	
<p><i>Wendy Russ</i> Extended Day Coordinator 904 547-7413 Wendy.Russ@stjohns.k12.fl.us</p> <p>Morning Care opens at 6:30 AM After Care closes at 6:00 PM</p>							

- A 50% St. Johns County School District employee discount is available.
- Tuition is due monthly and, *per Florida State Law*, must be paid in advance of services being rendered.
- Tuition is due on the dates listed in the yellow table.
- Full tuition is due regardless of your child’s anticipated attendance for the next month. •
- *Late payments will be charged a \$5.00 for every 5 school days.
- After being late for two consecutive weeks, your “Beyond the Bell” privileges will be suspended until your account is current.
- Payments may be made online or by check. Your check payments for “Beyond the Bell” should only include your “Beyond the Bell” fees. Do not include fees for any other school function in your “Beyond the Bell” check. **Fees for extra-curricular activities are paid directly to that vendor.**

- Statements will only be printed if requested. You are required to pay your Beyond the Bell fees according to the payment dates and terms you agreed upon at the time of registration. For tax purposes, our tax ID number is 59-6000824.

Early Withdrawal Policy/Fees

If you need to discontinue our services, kindly provide two weeks' written notice of your plans. Credits or refunds for any unused portions of childcare cannot be given without two weeks prior written notice. Please also keep in mind other children may be on a waiting list for an available opening. Please know that if we are not aware of your plan to discontinue our services, you will be responsible for the entire month's fee. If your child leaves with any outstanding debts, he/she may not be reenrolled until these have been satisfied, and you will be responsible for paying the debt.

August and September Payments

Registration is due upon registering. August payment is due July 1st and no later than the 15th of July. All payments are due no later than the 15th of the prior month. Therefore, August is due July 1st late on July 15th.

Payment Instructions for Extracurricular Fee-Based Activities All of the monthly class fees for extracurricular fee-based activities should always be made payable directly to the **VENDOR**, not the school. Failure to honor your child's contract for these activities may result in our inability to continue services for your child. This policy has become necessary in order to provide the continuity these activities require for all the participants to be successful in learning these skills.

- Any additional charges such as recital fees, costumes, karate testing fees, and uniforms should be made directly to the vendor.

COMMUNICATION

Attendance and dismissal arrangements, which deviate from the normal weekly schedules, **MUST be communicated on the TCE dismissal change form, found on the TCE website homepage**. We accept dismissal changes up until **2:00 PM** every day except Wednesdays. **1:00 PM** is the deadline on Wednesdays. Dismissal Change Requests will not be read after cutoff times. We must be notified of all dismissal changes via the dismissal change form. We will not take a student's word as confirmation of their dismissal change. Teachers will be notified only when a form is submitted. We will not accept phone calls, notes, or emails as we must use a streamlined way of communicating transportation changes.

For any plans which you know will come up regularly on a weekly basis: example - a child plays soccer and will be picked up by his/her coach, a "temporary arrangements email must be submitted. It will

then be recorded on the sign out roster for the specified time period and we will not expect your child's attendance on those days.

We will not allow his/her dismissal arrangements to change without the proper communication from the parents.

Communication for all upcoming activities such as parties, etc., will be displayed in the checkout area, or by email. Please make an effort to read and/or look for "Beyond the Bell" information.

All "Beyond the Bell" staff members are equipped with walkie-talkies for quick and convenient contact. This provides a faster method of summoning help in the event of an injury or sickness. It also provides us with the convenience of locating your child when you arrive to pick him/her up in the afternoon.

MOVIES

Occasionally, Beyond the Bell will show a movie to the students. All movies shown are rated G or PG, if appropriate. Alternative activities will be provided for students who are not interested in watching the movie playing.

DISMISSAL CHANGES

It is the parent's responsibility to fill out the transportation change form on the TCE website homepage. Dismissal changes **MUST** be recorded on the online form. You may reach the "Beyond the Bell" staff at 904-547-7413 or at wendy.russ@stjohns.k12.fl.us. Please note that emails to teachers, hand written notes, or calls into the office will not be accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence will be done via email. In effort to create a "greener" Beyond the Bell, statements will only be printed if requested.

AFTERNOON SNACK

Afternoon snacks are included in the fee charged for Beyond the Bell. The snacks that are available include, but are not limited to, pudding, bananas, apples, oranges, string cheese, yogurt, pretzels, popcorn, fruit roll-ups, graham cracker cookies, chips, etc. Drinks generally consist of water. Your child's dietary restrictions and food allergies should be noted on your child's registration. You may choose to send your child to school daily, with a packed, non-perishable snack if you prefer.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS:

"Beyond the Bell" will close when St. Johns County Schools are closed due to severe weather conditions or other emergency conditions affecting the county. In severe weather, the children will be brought inside Timberlin Creek Elementary School. You may come and check out your child through normal check-out procedures.

ACCIDENTS/ILLNESSES:

The safety of your child is the number one priority to us. The children should report any and all injuries and when they are not feeling well to the "Beyond the Bell" staff.

If a child is injured, the staff will make every effort to contact the parent(s). If you or other emergency contacts cannot be reached and the injury is considered serious, the ambulance service will be called and one of our teachers will accompany your child to the hospital. An accident/incident form will be completed and kept on file when any injury occurs.

Most "Beyond the Bell" staff are trained in CPR and First Aid. It is School Board Policy to use "Universal Precautions" and treat every person or incident as if there were possibility of transmission of disease. The use of approved disinfectants, rubber gloves and recommended precautions are all consistently reinforced to help maintain a healthy working and playing environment.

If your child arrives at "Beyond the Bell" ill, you will be asked to take him/her home. If your child becomes ill, you or an authorized person will be called to pick up your child. Please respect this request when made; it is meant to keep everyone as healthy as possible when they are at "Beyond the Bell".

Other conditions may warrant your child's removal from the "Beyond the Bell" at the discretion of the "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator.

It is the parent's responsibility to maintain an accurate list of emergency contact numbers. This allows "Beyond the Bell" to contact alternate individuals when your child is ill, and we are unable to reach you. Please be sure emergency contacts are local, and can pick up your child, if there is an emergency and we cannot reach you.

PERSONAL ITEMS:

Students are not allowed to bring personal items to "Beyond the Bell" this includes toys, cards, stuffed animals and other items from home. "Beyond the Bell" is NOT responsible for any personal items lost during "Beyond the Bell".

DRESS CODE:

Weather permitting, your child will have playtime outside during "Beyond the Bell". Please keep this in mind when dressing your child in the morning. It is always best to dress your child: • in comfortable play clothes.

- in appropriate clothing for all weather conditions.

Please do not:

- send your child in with jewelry
- send your child with open-toe or backless shoes or cowboy boots. **Sneakers are the best shoe in which to send your child to school!**

If your child has a problem with bathroom accidents, please leave an extra change of clothes in a large zip-lock bag LABELED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME in their backpack.

CURRICULUM:

"Beyond the Bell" staff will provide for the children a variety of developmentally appropriate activities, including expressive art, active play, sports, games, crafts, homework lab and social skills building.

HOMEWORK LAB

We realize that time spent on homework is an important part of your child's after school experience. In an effort to meet your child's academic needs we have a structured Homework Lab schedule that is followed diligently. Students in Second-Fifth grades report to Homework Lab Monday through Thursday. Students are required to attend Homework Lab for 30 minutes unless we have a written request from their parent/guardian stating that they may be released from Homework Lab early. When your child states that s/he has completed all homework, we must assume this is true and that it includes the 20 minutes of required reading each child should do four nights/week. The "Beyond the Bell" staff will do their best to assist your child with completion of homework, however, please check to make sure your child has completed their homework on a daily basis.

First Grade students do not attend Homework Lab; they are given adequate time to complete their assignments independently. However, should you wish for your First Grade child to attend Homework Lab, please submit a written request to the Beyond the Bell Coordinator.

Expectations for Homework Lab are as follows:

- To arrive for Homework Lab daily.
- To be quiet and not talk with their neighbor.
- To bring all necessary materials from the classroom with them to "Beyond the Bell". To reinforce the goal of being responsible, children are unable to return to their class to retrieve forgotten items more than once a year.
- To do homework and/or reading as you have requested.

DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURES

For the safety of all children, we ask that you walk into "Beyond the Bell" and pick up your child at the end of the day. All children must be signed in/out with your electronic signature and the time will automatically be recorded.

- Each child must be signed in/out every day. Students are not allowed to sign themselves out/in.
- At the end of the day, each child must be picked up by someone on your approved pick-up list.

Please inform all parties on your approved list that they will need to provide a picture ID at pick-up.

- If changes need to be made to the parties on your approved list, please do so on your online registration form.
- Children will not be released to anyone who is not on their approved pick-up list or those who cannot provide picture ID and must be operating a tagged vehicle.
- If your child is enrolled in an extra-curricular, fee-based activity, please avoid picking up your child early on the day of their scheduled activity.

LATE PICK-UP POLICY/FEE

Each student must be picked-up and signed out by 6:00 pm. At 6:01 pm and after, you will be asked to sign a late pick-up sheet. We recognize that circumstances may arise and cause an unavoidable late pick-up. When that occurs, we ask that you notify us before 6:00 pm. Your waiting child will feel more reassured as well. We extend our understanding by offering you three excused late pick-ups. After three late pick-ups, you will be asked to make other arrangements for after-school care.

Additionally, in the event you are late picking up your child, you will be charged \$5.00 for the first 5 minutes you are late, and an additional \$5 for every 5 minutes thereafter. This is a St. Johns County School District policy and is strictly enforced. Your late fee will be determined using Timberlin Creek's clock and late fees will automatically be charged to your account. When arriving, please do NOT dispute the fee charged. This is a fee we DO NOT wish to have to collect.

Any questions you may have regarding this policy should be addressed to the "Beyond the Bell" Coordinator, and not to the attendant caring for your child at the time of pick up.

BEHAVIOR:

Our children are well versed in Character Counts principles and know the difference between right and wrong. However, when problems do occur, we have rules and consequences that will be enforced. We feel strongly that when we have support from parents at home, we can be more effective in helping children who have made an error in judgment. Being able to work with the support of our parents will minimize the likelihood of having to repeat the process. Students must be able to follow the rules of the program in accordance with a staff to student ratio of 1 to 25.

PLEASE READ OVER THESE POLICIES WITH YOUR CHILD! Know that we will make you aware of minor issues to prevent potentially larger problems before they occur. You will note on your form that after a third reprimand, a child may be permanently expelled from our program. This is a policy we hope we do not have to enforce, but sometimes is necessary to ensure a smooth running program for all children attending. It is a **privilege, not a right,** to attend the "Beyond the Bell" program. **POSITIVE BEHAVIOR IS A MUST!!**

CITIZENSHIP RULES AND WARNINGS

1. Children are required to remain with their teachers during their designated time and/or are responsible for informing their teachers of their whereabouts by reporting in for ROLL CALL at the beginning of "Beyond the Bell".

2. Good sportsmanship and fair play must be displayed at all times.
3. Disrespect in any form and/or to anyone will not be tolerated.
4. No foul or abusive language or hand gestures.
5. No defacing or abusing of school property, materials or equipment.
6. Children are responsible for their own belongings.
7. No fighting, hitting, kicking, or other abusive behavior towards fellow students or teachers.
8. Teachers are to be shown respect and are to be obeyed at all times.
9. No chewing gum or eating lollipops.
10. All injuries, conflicts or mishaps, no matter how small, must be reported to the teachers immediately.
11. No dangerous items of any type are to be brought to school.
12. All valuable items should be checked into the "Beyond the Bell" office. However, "Beyond the Bell" will not be responsible for their care. Bring at your own risk!
13. Electronics are not permitted. These items may be allowed on occasion as a privilege. The "Beyond the Bell" teacher will let you know if/when this is permitted. When this occurs, we must have prior permission from the parents and a note releasing Timberlin Creek "Beyond the Bell" and school of any liability. These items must stay in your child's backpack until he/she arrives at "Beyond the Bell". They may be used at designated times as instructed by the "Beyond the Bell" staff.

Parents will be notified when their child is unable to meet our student behavior expectations. A pattern of continuous behavior issues may lead to a temporary suspension or removal from the "Beyond the Bell" program as outlined below

INFORMAL WARNING:

For the first official offense, a conference with the child and Beyond the Bell Director will occur. The child will be given time to correct his/her behavior, he/she may be given methods and/or time to prove he/she is able to adhere to policy. Informal warnings will be removed from the child's record if the child exhibits acceptable corrected behavior for a two-week period. A parent is not asked for a conference with an informal warning, but may be notified.

FIRST REPRIMAND

Parents will be notified of any formal warning offenses. The record of offense remains on file.

SECOND REPRIMAND:

Parents will be notified of any warning offenses by way of a formal/informal verbal parent conference. Written documentation signed by the parent is required. The record of offense remains on file. **At this point, the CHILD IS SUSPENDED FROM THE "BEYOND THE BELL" PROGRAM FOR A PERIOD OF ONE WEEK.**

THIRD REPRIMAND:

Parents will be notified of any warning offenses by way of a formal/informal verbal parent conference. Written documentation, signed by the parent is required. The record of offense

remains on file. At this point, the **CHILD WILL BE EXPELLED FROM THE “BEYOND THE BELL” PROGRAM, INDEFINITELY.**

REMOVAL FROM THE “BEYOND THE BELL” PROGRAM:

The Program Director has the right to withdraw your child from the program if:

- Parents are repeatedly late picking up their child.
- Fees are not paid in advance or are continuously delinquent.
- Your child does not benefit from our program.
- Your child displays inappropriate behaviors or if an incident warrants removal.
- There is concern for the safety and/or well-being of any member of the “Beyond the Bell” program due to the actions of the student in question.

YOUR CHILD’S PROGRESS:

Communication is a key element at our “Beyond the Bell” program. Please feel free to ask any questions of our “Beyond the Bell” Coordinator. Email your child’s Beyond the Bell teacher if you have concerns or information you need to share with them. Email addresses may be found on our website.