



# POCO A POCO

“little by little”

PARENT HANDBOOK





## A NOTE FROM HEATHER



This document serves as a resource for you as a parent with children in the Poco a Poco Kids Choir at Colorado Community Church. Please refer to it as needed. Also, should you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [hcox@coloradocommunity.org](mailto:hcox@coloradocommunity.org) | 303-994-9688.

I am a teacher by day, so I am unable to answer calls or read emails during typical work hours. Most of my communication will take place during the evening. I will respond to you as soon as possible after receiving your communication.

## CAN MY CHILD JOIN POCO A POCO?

If your child is in 2nd-8th grade (or 1st grade with an older sibling in choir), then yes, they can join Poco a Poco! We do ask that you and your child commit to the following things:

1. **Attend rehearsal each week.** There is an attendance requirement in order to lead worship with us.
2. Members must be able to lead worship **both Saturday and Sunday** on worship weekends.
3. Your child must be able to be **attentive** and **respectful** during our 1.5 hour rehearsals, as well as stand still for 30 minutes at a time.

## 2025-2026 SCHEDULE

August 10.....	Kick-off Party
August 14/17.....	First rehearsals
August 21/24.....	Auditions
October 11/12.....	Worship Weekend
December 13/14.....	Worship Weekend
December 20/21.....	Christmas Caroling at CCC/Christmas Party
February 7/8.....	Worship Weekend
April 11/12.....	Worship Weekend
May 23/24.....	Worship Weekend (tentative)
May 24.....	End-of-Year Party
TBD.....	Worship Outreach



# THE PURPOSE OF POCO A POCO IS TO:

## Worship God

Poco a Poco worships an Audience of One. We do not sing to become well-known, to prove ourselves to other people, or to get facetime on stage. Rather, we sing in response to God's goodness and work on our behalf.

## Develop Leadership Skills

We believe in growing leadership skills in children so they develop into leaders in the church later in life. In choir, this could look like being a soloist, leading a drum part, helping at rehearsals by running slides, or being an example when it comes to behavior.

## Serve Others Through Music

By using their gifts in the choir and leading worship during weekend services, the kids serve the broader body in the church. They also use music to bless those in the community during our outreach singing and learn how their gifts and skills can be used to serve others.

## Develop Musical Abilities

We run a tight ship during rehearsals and really challenge the kids to grow in their ability to sing the songs we perform. This includes tone, pitch, rhythm, dynamics, and harmony as well as facial and body motions.

## BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

### We Worship an Audience of One

The whole point of gathering, singing, worshiping, and practicing is for God's glory and praise, not for our self. Everything we do, we do for God.

### Respect People and Property

This means treating all of the equipment (drums, risers, etc.) with respect and keeping hands and feet away from other kids.

### Work Hard

We do not have space to mess around in rehearsals. While we have a good time in practice, we have an agenda and goals in mind to rehearse and accomplish. This also means working hard and learning parts at home, outside of regular rehearsal times.

# POCO A POCO COMMITMENT AND COVENANT

We ask that both you and your children commit to this group just as you would any other serious extracurricular activity. We ask that you and your child(ren) promise to fulfill this list of expectations throughout the length of your involvement in Poco a Poco.

## Child Expectations

1. Follow instructions and respect the choir director, student leaders, and other participants through both your words and actions.
2. Be on time and attend rehearsal each week. You must attend a minimum of 4-5 rehearsals leading up to each Worship Weekend.
3. Stand and actively participate in the length of time needed in rehearsals and on Worship Weekends.
4. Diligently practice your music and lyrics at home.
5. Sing at all three services on Worship Weekends, when Poco A Poco leads worship. (If you cannot do all three, you'll have to sit out for that weekend.)
6. While choir is a serving opportunity for our kids, we do not see it as a substitute for basic spiritual growth. Kids Ministry asks that families commit that their children will attend either Kids Ministry classes or the Worship Service on the weekends.

## Parent Expectations

1. Pickup your child(ren) at the end of rehearsal from the Multisensory Room on Thursday at 8:00pm/Sunday at 10:30am.
2. Ensure your child follows the dress code for Worship Weekends.
3. If your child is going to attend Sunday School on worship weekends, please check them in for Kids Ministry classes prior to dropping them off at the Chapel for Poco a Poco at 2:30pm on Saturday and 8:30am on Sunday. Please be sure to leave their nametag with the attendance and care volunteer and keep their pick-up tag with you.
4. Please be mindful of where you sit if you do not plan to stay for the entirety of the service. A mass exodus of Poco a Poco parents after the children lead worship can be discouraging to whoever is preaching that weekend.

# CHOIR DETAILS

## Rehearsals

**Sundays | 9:00am-10:30am AND Thursdays | 6:30pm-8:00pm**

**Before rehearsal, please make sure your children:**

- Are hydrated, fed, and have recently used the restroom
- Leave toys, gum, notebooks, phones/technological devices, etc. at home

## Check in at the Kids Ministry Desk

Please **do not send** your kids to the Choir Room without first checking them in. *Worship Weekends are the exception, as we don't use name tags. Please bring them straight to the Chapel.*

## Pick up

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders must be picked up by an individual with their matching pick up tag. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders are able to release themselves if their name tag shows this symbol: !!!

Middle school students are always able to self release.

## Punctuality

**Our rehearsals start at 9:00am on Sundays and 6:30pm on Thursdays.**

This means everyone needs to be checked in and ready to start promptly at this time. To ensure this happens, it is best to arrive 5 or 10 minutes early so you have the time needed to check in at the Kids Ministry kiosks and walk to the Multisensory Room for practice.

If you are running more than 10 minutes late for rehearsal, you will not be able to attend that week. This is to ensure all children are in the classroom and properly accounted for as close to the start of rehearsal as possible and that there are no interruptions to the practice time.

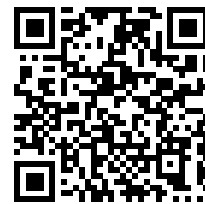
## Communication and Emails

Heather will communicate the most important information through email. Please always refer back to the emails for information or questions before reaching out. On Worship Weekends, please call or text Heather with any emergencies or absences. Please be sure to leave a message stating the name of your child so we are sure who will not be present for the Worship Weekend.

## YouTube Channel

It is vital that the kids are studying / listening to their choir songs at home, and we will equip them with the necessary resources to do so. Lyrics and songs will be emailed to you each time a new set list is introduced. We also have a YouTube channel where we post videos of drum parts, harmony parts, and sign language. It is a useful tool for kids as they practice so they don't forget what we've covered during our weekly rehearsals.

**Scan the QR code to find the YouTube channel**



## Soloist and Drum Parts

We always include soloist parts and drum parts in the songs that we sing to add musicality and help kids grow into being worship leaders. Auditions are not given out as participation awards, rather the students who excel at these parts are given them. There is always a balance, but the director works to pursue both excellence and opportunity for all when determining parts. Children given parts are expected to be leaders by knowing their part well and having excellent behavior. Failure to accomplish either of these may result in them losing their part.

We hold auditions for both drum parts and vocal soloist parts to be sure the child can perform at the level needed to lead others in worship. This includes not only voice skills, but body positioning and eye contact. Auditions are typically the first or second week of rehearsal of a new song set. Any child who wants to audition for a part has the opportunity to do so, but should be sure they are prepared BEFORE the audition. Audition sign-ups take place in the choir room before choir begins. Notifications will be sent out at the beginning of the next week after audition.

# WORSHIP WEEKENDS

## Parent Volunteering on Worship Weekends

The purpose of all these jobs is to free up the Director and allow them to focus on leading the choir and the music. The following are the roles we are asking for help with on Worship Weekends:

**Snack Preparation:** Setting out snacks (which we will provide), and making sure everything is ready to go whenever the kids come back from singing. Then clean up snacks and empty the trash after the kids are done.

**Offstage Help:** You are an extra set of eyes and ears to take care of discipline and crowd control (especially when we move places and during snack breaks). Help kids enter and exit the stage in an orderly fashion.

**Attendance/Care:** Take care of checking in kids, bathroom breaks, Band-Aids, bloody noses, and anything else that needs to be taken care of.

## Clothing / Attire

We expect that all kids adhere to the dress code for Worship Weekends and other Poco a Poco worship opportunities, or they will not be able to lead with the group. Lack of coordination or inappropriate clothing could be a distraction as we are leading worship.

**Poco a Poco T-Shirt:** This is required. Registration cost includes the price of a new shirt for your child for the season.

**Black or blue pants/jeans:** Either option is acceptable (no holes or ripped out sections)

**Hair:** Please don't wear headbands with ears, horns, super bright colors, huge bows, etc.

**Shoes:** We recommend that kids wear shoes that are comfortable (no heels) and strap securely to the feet (no flip-flops or slip-on sandals) so they stay safe on the risers and walking in and out.

**Prohibited:** Khakis, leggings, workout/jogging pants, or skirts

# WORSHIP WEEKEND SCHEDULE

## Saturday Schedule

*Please make sure your child has had lunch before arrival*

**2:30pm** – Drop off children at CCC and warm up\*

**3:00pm** – Practice on-stage with the band

**4:00pm** – Small snack to hold students over

**5:00pm\*\*** – Lead worship in Worship Center

**5:30pm** – Immediately after the kids finish singing, pick them up in the Chapel unless you've left your child's check in tag with the poco a poco attendance volunteer so they can be dropped off in KM classes.

\*Please remember to check your child in for Kids Ministry classes **prior** to dropping them off at the Chapel for Poco a Poco at 2:30pm. Leave their name tag with the attendance volunteer and keep their pickup tag with you.

\*\*If you plan on attending the 5:00pm service, please plan to pick up your child from the Chapel after they lead worship and have them either sit with you in the Worship Center for the remainder of the service or attend Kids Ministry classes.

## Sunday Schedule

**8:30am** – Drop off children at CCC and warm up\*

**9:00am** – Lead worship in Worship Center

**9:45am** – Snack in Chapel

**10:45am\*\*** – Lead worship in Worship Center

**11:25am** – Immediately after the kids finish singing, pick them up in the Chapel unless you've left your child's check in tag with the poco a poco attendance volunteer so they can be dropped off in KM classes.

\*Please check your child in for Kids Ministry classes **prior** to dropping them off at the Chapel for Poco a Poco at 8:30am. Leave their name tag with the attendance volunteer and keep their pickup tag with you.

\*\*If you plan on attending the 10:45am service, please plan to pick up your child from the Chapel after they lead worship and have them either sit with you in the Worship Center for the remainder of the service or attend Kids Ministry classes.





## POCO A POCO COMMITMENT

*By signing this agreement, we agree to  
work together and uphold these  
expectations for the 2025-2026  
Poco a Poco season.*



**Child(ren) Commitment**

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**Parent/Guardian Commitment**

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