

phone: (415) 861-2964 fax: (510) 748-9990 www.operation-shanti.org

Operation Shanti Children's Home Visitor Policy

We welcome visitors to Karunya Mane on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., with prior arrangement. Please contact us at our numbers listed on our contact page or send us an email to arrange a Sunday visit.

Because of the children's tight schedules and sincere focus on their education and activities, we do not entertain visitors from Monday to Saturday. We thank you in advance for respecting this aspect of our policy.

When you visit Karunya Mane, you may bring things for the kids as noted on the "things we need" page if you so desire. If not, we are happy to have you come to visit with the kids and to interact with them.

Please do not give anything directly to the children because doing so encourages inappropriate behavior and expectations from them (the begging habit); moreover, we must inventory and check all items that enter the premises.

Photography and videography are not allowed at any time at Karunya Mane. We understand your interest in taking pictures but we ask you to refrain from doing so for several reasons, foremost among them to avoid the inappropriate use of the children's images. Unfortunately there have been instances where children's images have been misused (e.g., child pornography, fraudulent charitable schemes, etc.).

Further, before some of the children came to KM, they were taught that they could earn money posing for tourists. We do not want to encourage this behavior.

Finally, the children are very distracted by the cameras and taking pictures ends up becoming the focal point of the visit at the expense of your opportunity to interact with and get to know the children.

Thank you for your cooperation.