



Response to COVID-19

AS OF 3/13/20

Dear Preschool Parents,

Growing concerns over the COVID-19 (coronavirus) has caused businesses and schools to alter practices to help prevent the spread of the virus. For the last few weeks the recommendations centered around good hygiene practices. Foothill Christian School and Preschool implemented new cleaning regimens and healthy routines and will continue to do so.

However, things changed abruptly with the cancellation of professional sports, Broadway plays, and other large group gatherings. Schools have been cancelling field trips, sporting events, and Open Houses. However, health officials *are not requiring* schools to close.

Most area schools, including FCPS, have chosen to remain open...for now! But things could change quickly again!

It's possible that FCPS could be mandated by health officials (or for precautionary measures choose) to close the preschool for a few weeks. Parents are strongly encouraged to start planning for that possibility, now! Check with your employer about their expectations of you during a temporary preschool shutdown. Identify family members or friends who might be able to watch your child for a short period of time. Some parents have pre-arranged a shorter work week with their employers and found alternate care for their child on the days they would have to work.

We know most preschool families are working parents and a school shut down would create challenges and potential hardships. We prefer to remain open as long as it is deemed safe to do so. *If...* Foothill needs to close, we would do our best to give as much notice as possible. However, there's no guarantee that a forced closure won't be imposed upon us with very little warning.

We will remain in contact with health officials and provide our families with regular updates. In the meantime, let's all continue to use best practices on health and hygiene. Be sure to keep your child at home if they sick.

Our lead pastor, Chris Lewis, recently reminded us all that "God is still in control of His world and still in control of you and me. He is not surprised, upset or wringing his hands in heaven. He knows the beginning from the end. He will never leave us nor forsake us. He is our refuge and strength. A very present help in times of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear!" We will respond with caution, but we will not fear!

Sincerely,

Vicky Gutzwiller
Director

**LETTER FROM PASTOR
CHRIS**

Foothill Church is moving to online services for the next 2 weeks – Your questions answered!