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## Response to COVID-19: Preschool Remains Open

*AS OF 3/13/20 at 6:00 PM*

Dear Preschool Parents,

Based on the recommendation from the Office of Education of Los Angeles County, schools throughout our region are temporarily closing. Foothill Christian School also announced closure of its elementary and middle school classes effective Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**However, Foothill Christian Preschool has chosen to remain open (on an optional basis) to support working families.** We prefer to remain open, for now, and as long as it is deemed safe to do so. Temporary school shutdowns are easier for families with high school children. High schoolers are old enough to take care of themselves. But preschool and elementary parents don't have that luxury. Their children need a place to go and we hope FCPS can fill that need.

However, there's no guarantee that the health department won't recommend closing. If that happens, we will close without hesitation.

It might be helpful for you to know that most Christian schools in our area have chosen to keep their preschools open. (These include Hope Lutheran, Western Christian, South Hills Academy, Arcadia Christian and more.) Even LA Unified School District is keeping certain childcare centers and free lunch sites open to families. Keep in mind, the recent decision to close schools was initiated by the LA County Office of Education, not the Health Department.

While we are planning to stay open, some families may not be comfortable keeping their child in a program with other children. We recognize some may choose to withdraw. That's completely understandable. However, please be aware that there are no refunds on March tuition.

Colossians 1:17 says "...God is before all things and in Him all things hold together." We take comfort in the fact that this virus did not take God by surprise. Not for one second. And we draw strength and confidence that He holds it all (including us) together. This year we have said, "We're in this together." Now more than ever, we remember *together* includes God!

We'll keep you updated as the situation evolves.

Sincerely,

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Vicky Gutzwiller  
*Director*

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