

Faith Lutheran Preschool
Parent Handbook



2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

A ministry of
Faith Community Lutheran Church
10405 Griffith Peak Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89135

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Las Vegas, NV 89135
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Dear Family,

Thank you for choosing Faith Lutheran Preschool, a ministry of Faith Community Lutheran Church. We hope you and your child enjoy the early years with us. Enclosed you will find a family handbook that will answer most of your questions and be a resource for you regarding our philosophy, goals, and operating procedures.

Read through the handbook and make it available throughout the year for reference. Also keep in mind that information contained in the Parent Handbook is subject to change. Please check bulletin boards, newsletters, emails, Procure and FLP Instagram or Facebook for changes and/or additions. Please feel free to ask questions of the Preschool staff at any time.

Faith Lutheran Preschool believes that each child is a unique and special gift from God. We consider the needs of the whole family while developing an appropriate program for children to grow.

Faith Lutheran Preschool's Pillars:

- 1) **Fostering relations with family and communities**
- 2) **Love God and others**
- 3) **Play based, age-appropriate program**

Thank you again and Welcome to our Faith family!

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Faith Community Lutheran Church & Schools' Mission:

“Inviting People to Know Jesus”

Faith Lutheran Preschool (FLP) Mission:

Planting seeds of faith and knowledge.

Nurturing young children in Christ's love to bear fruit for eternity.

Pillar #1: We “foster relations” when we:

- Consider the needs of the whole family and provide support through education, interaction, and communication.
- Provide meaningful content that builds ideas about our community, relationships, family, and culture.

Pillar #2: We “love God and others” when we:

- Implement our Biblically based curriculum that promotes the growth of children into a relationship with Jesus and encourages them to share the good news of forgiveness and salvation to all people.
- Show Christ's love and guidance in all areas of living in accordance with God's word.
- Provide children, families, and staff opportunities to support our local, national, and global communities.
- Nurture each child's self-esteem, help him/her to develop respect for others and encourage his/her creativity.

Pillar #3: We “provide a play-based age-appropriate program” when we:

- Providing a safe a nurturing environment promotes the physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual growth of each child.
- Provide children with ample time for rich sustained, growth-producing learning through play.
- Allow the recommendations of the National Association of the Education of Young children (NAEYC), Nevada State Early Childhood Standards and The Pacific Southwest District Lutheran Early Childhood standards to guide our program.
- Provide and support the continuing professional growth of our staff.

Play Works

Curiosity, a natural outflow of each child's drive to learn, finds its expression through play. Playful learning becomes the vehicle by which the young child finds joy, understands the world around him, creates knowledge about human relationships, and tries out new ideas. Problem solving, curiosity, self-esteem, mathematics, cooperation, and endurance all come through the opportunity to play. Play has many types, all of which have value to the growing child.

Child-initiated play:

This type of play is the foundation of all play. The staff provides the play materials, observes, and participates only as needed.

Directed play:

The teacher helps children play based on something the children have previously experienced. (She/he uses props that allow the children to expand their knowledge based on experience.)

Guided play:

The teacher prompts play but allows the children to play with little intervention. (She/he knows that children learn best without intervention. Intervention by a staff member will come only if a child's developmental needs call for help.)

Outdoor physical play:

A type of child-initiated play takes on fresh meaning in the classroom we call the playground.

Each one of the types of play is productive and critical in shaping a child. To children their play is their work. We encourage learning and growing opportunities by providing ample time for children to pursue their ideas, to do things their own way, and to imagine what it's like to be someone else. Variety in toys, textures, and art projects encourages imagination, language, development of motor skills and FUN! This child-centered approach allows each child to control his or her own environment as much as possible and develop a healthy personality.

Teachers provide questions, information and materials based on each child's uniqueness and ability. Early childhood professionals help children by extending their ideas, by involving other people to help them understand the world (this is where you as the parent greatly affect the program) and allowing children to see they have many options available to them. Cooperation, generosity, and compassion develop as adults exhibit these traits to the children. Opportunities to think occur as children are guided to find their own solutions and figure things out for themselves.

Faith Lutheran Preschool allows the natural link between play, development, and learning. These opportunities place play at the center of our curriculum. Play Works!



The Core Ministry Beliefs and Values of Faith Community Lutheran Church and Schools

As part of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we believe and teach that...

- The entire Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired and inerrant Word of God, and that it reveals God's love and plan of salvation, and His will for our lives.
- God is Triune, three persons in one eternal God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit.
- In six days, God wonderfully created all things and declared them good, and He created human beings as the crown of His creation, and He continues to provide all of the earthly and heavenly benefits we receive.
- Because of the fall of Adam and Eve into sin, we are all sinful by nature, and our sin has separated us from God and places us under His eternal wrath and punishment.
- Jesus Christ, God's only Son came into this world to save us by living a perfect life in our place, by dying on the cross to pay for our sins, and by rising from the dead so we could have eternal life in heaven.
- Salvation is God's free gift that is offered at the initiative of His love, not something we can earn.
- This gift of salvation is offered to all who, by God's grace and the work of the Holy Spirit, repent of their sin and receive Jesus in faith as Savior and Lord.
- The Gospel, the good news of forgiveness and eternal life through faith in Jesus, not only provides salvation, but also the power to change our lives so that they conform to God's will.
- In response to God's grace, the Christian Church consists of those faithful people who rely on Him for forgiveness, who hold firmly to His teachings, and who receive strength and guidance for their Christian lives through regular worship, prayer, Bible study, and the reception of His sacraments.
- God's design for marriage is a lifelong covenant between a man and a woman, and that parents have the primary responsibility for the spiritual development of their children, and the Church and Schools assist parents with the training, support, and encouragement they need to carry out their God-given responsibilities

We welcome you to be part of the ministries of Faith Community Lutheran Church and Schools. By stating our core beliefs, our aim is to clarify our beliefs so that we can more effectively work together for the sake of the children, and for the sake of the Kingdom of God. By enrolling your child (ren) in our school(s), you agree to support us in our efforts to teach the children according to these beliefs.

Striving for excellence and unity in ministry we value:

- **Word and Sacrament** Christ and His gospel are delivered to His people

“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

- **Missions** We are a mission outpost that reflects Christ’s love in word and deed locally, nationally, and internationally.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

- **Growing Disciples** We invite people to move to where Jesus is calling us to be.

“Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity.” Hebrews 6:1a

- **Outreach and Care** As ambassadors for Christ, we care for and reach out to our community.

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

General Services

The Preschool is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. for full day childcare and full day programs. A half day preschool program is also offered. The half day programs range from 8:00-12:30 am. We provide programs for children ages 2 years through 5 years. A calendar is provided for each school year and posted on our website for holidays and closed days at our Preschool. Summer Camp registration begins in April and the hours are 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. We are closed one week before and after summer camp in preparation for the summer and fall programs.

Non-discrimination Policy

We do not discriminate, in any way, against a student because of his/her race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, admissions policies, athletics, scholarship, and other school administered programs.

American with Disabilities Act

We do not exclude children with disabilities from our programs unless their presence poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or requires a fundamental alteration of the program. It is our desire to include all children in our preschool program but those with special needs will be evaluated individually to determine if we are able to meet the needs of the student. If a student in our program is determined to have needs our program cannot provide a parent conference will be held and parents will be provided with program resources.

Custody and Guardianship Legal Matters

It is the preschools practice, for the well-being of our students, that we remain neutral on our opinions and observations during a family's legal matters regarding custody of their children. Therefore, we do not provide statements and/or documents on the parents' behalf.

Enrollment Information

Faith Lutheran Preschool is designed to meet the needs of the general populace. The Preschool is not equipped to care for exceptionally gifted children or those with extreme learning or behavioral disabilities. Children, who are enrolling in our preschool, need to be able to speak and understand the English language. Children are placed in classes according to age. The dates used are based on the age requirements for kindergarten enrollment at our Academy and the Clark County School District. The Preschool cutoff date is July 31st. **The Academy cut-off date for kindergarten is age five by July 31st.** If the classes are filled, the child's name may be put on a waiting list to fill vacancies as they occur during the year. Waiting lists are created after the registration period in January. They do not carry over year to year. Classes are filled on a first come first served basis, with priority given to active members of Faith Community Lutheran Church (member for at least six months, actively involved in worship, spiritual growth, service, and financial support), children already enrolled in Faith Lutheran Schools program and their siblings, children of current Faith Community Lutheran Church and Schools and Faith Lutheran Middle School and High School staff members and Military families.

Teacher requests

Teacher requests are not accepted. The most important goal is to have a balanced classroom for a positive learning experience for all students.

Enrollment Forms and Open House

The following paperwork must be completed before a child may attend:

- Application/Family Data Form
- Registration Form
- Financial Agreement Form
- Tuition Express Payment Form
- Emergency Consent Form
- Health Evaluation Form from the doctor and a copy of current immunizations
- Notice of Pesticide and Handbook receipt

Our open house will be held in December for the upcoming school year. Parents are invited to tour the school, observe our program, and meet with teachers and staff. Parents enrolling after the open house will be set up with an individual time to visit the school.

Health Evaluation, Immunizations, and Exemptions

Nevada State law requires the immunization record and health evaluation. A doctor or registered nurse must sign it before we can allow any child to attend Preschool. If your child's immunizations are not up to date, you may submit a written plan signed by a doctor or nurse as to how you will get up to date. These documents are reviewed by the Southern Nevada Health Department. While the state of Nevada requires certain immunizations between the age of 4-6, the Southern Nevada Health District for Childcares requires these immunizations be given within days of the student's 4th birthday. Religious and medical exemptions may not be handwritten as a required form is to be completed.

Confidentiality

Observation of children by visitors, students, student teachers, and or specialists may occur within our facility. Confidentiality in all matters is maintained. For your child's protection, children's records are open only to authorized Preschool and Church employees, authorized representatives of our licensing agencies, and to the child's parents or legal guardian.

Arrival and Departure Procedure

- Full day students aged 2-5 **ONLY** may be checked in as early as 8:00 am and picked up by 5:00 pm (please arrive no later than 4:55pm).
- Pre-K Four/Five-year old half day program begins at 8:00am. Pick up time is 12:30 pm.
- Three-year-old half day programs start at 8:30 am. Pick up is at 12 noon.
- Two-year-old half day programs start at 8:15 am. Pick up is at 11:45 am.

It is very important for all children to be present when class begins. Children who are late will miss important teacher directed learning time. If you are late, please **DO NOT** interrupt circle time.

Quietly check your child in and disrupt the class as little as possible.

Walk your child into the facility and the teacher will greet you at the door. Be certain an adult is available for supervision and is aware of your child's presence before departing. If you need to speak to your child's teacher at length, please call or email to schedule an appointment, so that he/she can give you the full attention needed.

Before leaving Preschool, check your child's folder for papers to be taken home and give your child the opportunity to say good-bye to his/her teacher.

Signing In & Out:

- Sign your child in and out on the iPad or the Procure App on your phone using the QR code. Otherwise check in at the front counter. Be sure to include the time in and out.
Be sure you check your child out in and out with his/her teacher.
- If you are picking up a child other than your own, please stop by the Preschool office so we may verify your permission to pick up.

Children will not be released to anyone other than the parents or those listed as authorized pick-ups. Proper ID will be required at the time of pick up.

Financial Arrangements

A tuition fee schedule is available in the office and is posted on our website (faithpreschoollv.org) under resources, registration.

- The annual registration fee is **non-refundable**.
- Tuition is due on the fifth of each month. Statements will not be issued. Payments must be made through Tuition Express, an automatic withdrawal from your checking or credit card (**credit cards will have an additional 2.7% service fee**). An insufficient fund fee of \$50 will be charged if your payment is denied. Late payments of \$50 will be charged if payments are not made by the fifth of each month. Checks are accepted if you wish to pay for the 10- month tuition in one payment.
- A \$50.00 late pick-up fee and an additional \$50 up to 30 minutes will be charged after program hours. Families that are consistently late picking up their children will be asked to make other childcare arrangements.
- TUITION PAYMENTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND ARE NOT AFFECTED BY HOLIDAYS, BREAKS, VACATIONS OR ABSENCES FOR ILLNESS OR PERSONAL REASONS. Tuition is an annual rate that may be broken into 10 equal payments.
- The Preschool reserves the right to remove a child from the program for reason of non-payment of tuition and fees.
- Two weeks' written notice is required for withdrawal from the Preschool. **No partial months will be refunded.**
- End-of-the-year statements for tax purposes can be requested from the front desk office.

Family Involvement and P.I.N.

The Preschool believes parents are the child's primary source of influence. We have an open-door policy for parents and consider it a privilege for them to share their precious time and talents with the children and staff. Participation offers the opportunity for you to follow through with experiences, songs, activities, and games presented in your child's classroom. Your presence also greatly expands the learning experiences of the children. Parents are invited to participate and/or observe but we do ask you to schedule your visit with the teacher so she/he can plan accordingly. Sign up to volunteer in our Partners in Nurturing (P.I.N.) Group will be available at Meet the Teacher in August.

Parent Support

Parenting classes will occasionally be offered through Faith Community Lutheran Church. These classes will be based on the needs of the parents currently being served by the Preschool, attending Faith Community Lutheran Church and those from the community who wish to participate. Please let us know how we can support your family. Please watch for class announcements in our newsletters, Facebook page or our Instagram page.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are held in November for Pre-K students. The conference is an opportunity for the teacher to get to know each of the parents, share goals for the year, and familiarize parents with the methods of observation and evaluation. It is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions, voice any expectations for the year, and provide pertinent information to the teacher. Conferences are generally held in the fall and spring. The November conference will be mandatory for all Pre-K and Kinder Prep students.

If at any time during the year a conference is needed for a child of any age, one may be scheduled by either a parent or the teacher.

Assessment Reports

Child Assessment Reports for the twos, threes and Pre-K will be received by parents three times a year either sent home, given during conference, or presented when portfolios are given.

Child Assessments

Children are assessed throughout the year using a variety of methods for several reasons:

1. To monitor children's development and learning
2. To guide our planning and decision making
3. To identify children who might benefit from special services
4. To report to and communicate with others

If there is concern regarding an individual child's development the teacher may recommend to the parents that a specialist evaluate the child. Generally, our first referral would be to Child Find, a free Clark County School District service.

Communication

Parents are informed of the activities at the Preschool through a monthly teacher's letter and center newsletter. The letter will contain pertinent topics, class activities, important dates, upcoming events, and parenting suggestions. Please check your child's classroom folder daily for any information that is being sent home. Newsletters and announcements will be shared via Procure and email. Weekly lesson plans will be shared by the teacher via email and posted outside the classroom. Please be sure we have your current email address on file with the teacher and the front desk.

Your child's name highlighted on the sign in and sign out sheet indicates a need to communicate with you. Ask at the front desk for a message from our staff.

Curriculum

Our goal is to instill a love of learning and promote social and academic skills. We also offer an opportunity for spiritual growth. Faith development is at the core of our curriculum and is integrated into every aspect of teaching. Our units are divided into broad categories that reflect how young children learn:

Spiritual / Social Living

- Relationship building
- Interrelationships
- Small group play
- Attitude and relationship to the Lord
- Moral development
- Values

Communication Arts

- The ways we communicate
- Development of listening and speaking
- Beginnings of reading and writing
- Appreciation of the values and use of communication systems

Expressive Arts

- Foundations for art, music, movement, drama
- Creative expression of feelings and ideas
- Use of creative materials and activities

Wellness /Physical Development

- Foundations for health, safety, nutrition, fitness
- Promotion of positive attitudes toward a healthy lifestyle
- Development of responsibility and autonomy
- Large movement activities

Discover about the World

- Discovery of the immediate environment
- Foundations for science, social studies, math
- Organization of ideas and objects into categories and classes
- Manipulation and observation of real materials and phenomena

Our primary curriculum resource is *One in Christ* published by Concordia Publishing House. We also use *Learning Without Tears* by Jan Z. Olsen, *The Kindness Curriculum* by Judith Ann Rice, *SPARKS* Early Childhood Physical Activity by Patricia Kimbrell, Paul Rosengard, Phyllis Richey and Thomas McKenzie and *Color Me Healthy* by Caroline Dunn and Cathy Thomas.

Children's File Folders, Emails and Emergency Contact

Please check your child's file folder daily for Preschool information, art projects, notes from the teacher, etc. Parents are responsible for picking up the information placed in the folders. This is one of our main forms of communication. Please be sure your email and cell #'s are updated with your child's teacher and the front desk. Text messages will be sent through Procure for emergencies and important announcements. All general information will be sent via email, posted at the front desk or through our monthly newsletter.

Items from Home

We ask that your children do not bring personal items from home. No cell phones, iPads, or other electronic items are allowed at the Preschool. Also, no toy guns or weapons of any kind are allowed at the Preschool. The teacher may occasionally ask the child to bring a special item and/or special books to share in class; but after the special toy or book has been shared, your child will be asked to put it away in his or her cubby to avoid lost items and conflicts with other children. Preschool is not responsible for personal items brought from home.

Artwork

Please take your child's artwork home each day. Children are proud of their creations and love the opportunity to tell you about them.

Dress

Children are encouraged to wear play clothes and tennis shoes. Shoes without backs are not appropriate for the playground as they prevent children from running and jumping safely. Daily activities sometimes include active and messy play, and the children should feel comfortable enough to enjoy themselves without worrying about their clothes. Your child's name should be placed on all outdoor clothing as well as other belongings to ensure the return of all items. Chapel shirts are encouraged on your child's chapel day and spirit wear on Fridays.

Change of Clothing

A change of clothing is not just for bathroom accidents. Children will paint, play in water, and may get their clothing wet or dirty. Please bring extra underpants, pants, socks, and shirts for your child. They will be stored in a tote bag in the classroom. Please provide your child with a summer and winter change of clothes along with a pair of shoes if possible so we may change soiled clothing.



Toilet Trained

Children need to be toilet trained to be enrolled in the three and older classrooms. To be "toilet trained" means to be independent and self-sufficient in the bathroom. It is important to dress them in clothes they can put on and take off quickly and easily. Please avoid overalls, belts, and tights. We realize a child may have an accident now and then but if it is happening several times a week, you may be asked to withdraw your child until he/she is toilet trained. Please speak with your child's teacher or the director if you have any questions.

Naps at School

During nap time those children who do not fall asleep are given the option of quiet activities after rest time. It is a requirement of Childcare Licensing that all children are given a rest period. Those that do sleep can sleep until 2:00 p.m. **Each child must bring his or her own Rollee Pollee marked with the child's name.** Rollee Pollees can be ordered through the front desk. The Rollee Pollee will be sent home Friday and must be laundered and returned on Monday. Kinder Prep students have a designated 30 rest time in their schedule.

Lunch and Snack

Parents need to provide a sack lunch and snack (am/pm) for children that are present for lunch and snack. Lunchtime varies per class from 11:15am-12:30pm. Snack time is AM and PM.

- Pack foods that do not need heating or cooking (due to licensing restrictions).
- Foods that need to be kept cool, put in the proper container, and **USE A FREEZER PACK**. Thermos' can be used to keep food warm.
- **DO NOT** send soda, candy or other high sugar drinks or foods.
- Please include 2 servings of fruit or vegetables, 1 serving of grain/bread and 1 serving of meat or meat alternative.
- **Place your child's first and last name on the lunch/snack box and individual containers.**
- If a child does not have a lunch, Preschool staff will attempt to call the parent. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged if the Preschool is to provide the lunch.

Birthdays

Special recognition is given to each child on his/her birthday. Parents may choose to provide on (or close to) their child's birthday a special **MINI** snack in celebration of that day. We have some severe allergies, especially nuts. Please discuss plans prior with your child's teacher. **All baked goods and food items must be from a licensed bakery or food facility and in the bakery's closed container. Homemade goods are not allowed. All food items must be wrapped and not prepared at home. Balloons are not allowed as they are a choking hazard. Please do not send party favors or goodie bags.**



General Health

Each child who is newly enrolled must have had a physical examination within the last year. A physician, public health nurse, or preschool screening clinic may perform this physical examination. If your child has any special health problems, please inform the teacher and the front office.

Allergies

Special cooking projects are a part of our curriculum. If your child has any food allergies, please inform your child's teacher, and the Preschool office. Allergies must also be listed on the emergency form. Please be considerate of other children's allergies to peanuts and do not pack that for your child's lunch and snack.

Illness

It is State of Nevada law that your child remains at home if he or she has had a fever, red or sore throat, severe runny nose, unusual rash, vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours. **Your child is to remain home for a minimum of 48 hours from the time they are sent home with an illness. If the illness appears to be a contagious or serious illness the front desk may require a doctor's note that allows the child to return to school. At this time Covid protocols require children who test positive for Covid not to return to school until quarantine is complete. Children exposed to Covid in our school will also need to quarantine unless they have been immunized or have a medical document stating a recent positive Covid result and recovery. Siblings of exposed or positive children for Covid will also not be allowed to return to school until quarantine is complete.**

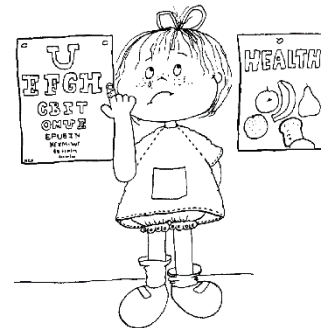
If a child displays any symptoms of illness while at Preschool, he or she will be placed in an isolated area until the parents can be notified, and the parent or authorized person has arrived to take the child home. Children should be picked up within the hour.

No child who arrives noticeably ill shall be admitted for that day. Parents are required to screen their child for illness prior to bringing them into Preschool. Parents are encouraged to plan for illnesses by having a backup plan for childcare. If your child is unable to participate in our daily activities, including outdoor play, he/she should remain at home.

It is critical that everyone upholds these guidelines for the well-being of the children and staff at the Preschool.

If your child contracts a contagious disease, please let us know so we can communicate this to other families and to our regulatory agency.

If your child will be absent, we would appreciate a phone call to the preschool or email to your child's teacher and/or the preschool office.



General Cleanliness

Children are encouraged to clean themselves and the environment to the extent they are capable of. Children are trained in age-appropriate personal hygiene, including proper hand washing methods. To be "toilet trained" means to be independent and self-sufficient in the bathroom. It is important to dress them in clothes they can put on and take off quickly and easily.

Emergency Authorization

The Preschool must have on file for each child a signed *Emergency Consent Form* that authorizes emergency care and the transfer of medical records to the local hospital. Emergency numbers for reaching a parent or guardian and another authorized person shall be kept on file. ***It is vital*** that these numbers be kept up to date.

Emergency Procedures

- **Faith Preschool has a fulltime armed security guard.**
- The Preschool has an emergency procedure guide on file for public review upon request.
- Staff members are trained in emergency procedures, CPR and first aid.
- An “Accident Report” shall be completed for each accident, including minor injuries and abrasions. The report shall be made as soon as possible following the accident. A copy of the report shall be given to the parent, and a copy placed in the child’s file.
- The Preschool conforms to all fire regulations designated by the State Fire Marshall. A fire evacuation plan with alternate routes is posted in each classroom.
- The child’s parent, guardian, or authorized person shall be notified immediately in the event of an accident or illness requiring emergency care.
- If a child is transported to the hospital, his or her health summary and signed *Emergency Consent Form* shall be sent along. A staff member shall accompany the child until the arrival of the parents, guardian, or authorized person.

Faith Community Lutheran Church and Schools **Emergency Operations Plan** includes the following:

- A detailed plan, coordinated with national, state and county emergency action plans, with detailed procedures for protecting the welfare of students, staff, members, and visitors during an emergency event.
- Campus Emergency Teams, integrated with our community emergency responders.
- Individual Emergency Plans include regular drills for fire, lockdown, shelter-in-place, evacuation, and other potential disasters.
- A re-unification site to re-unite parents and students is an off-campus site used if evacuation is necessary. If a crisis occurs, the Preschool will attempt to contact you via email or telephone text, via Procure, with information on the status of the children and the re-unification process. **It is very important to keep your contact numbers current with the Preschool.**

Medications

Parents must fill out the Preschool’s Authorization to Administer Medication Form. For consistency and accuracy, medication is given at 12:00 pm. and 4:00 p.m. to full-time children only by assigned staff. Only doctor prescribed medication shall be permitted and only if it is prescribed to the child and in its original container (ask pharmacist to place medication in two bottles one for Preschool and the other for home). The original container must clearly state the time of day and amount of medication required. We cannot administer medication on an AS NEEDED basis unless prescribed by a doctor for relief of severe allergies. If over-the-counter medication is to be given, it must be accompanied by a signed and dated note from the child’s physician and be sealed in its original container. All medications must be left at the front desk.

Do not leave medicine in your child’s lunch box, backpack, or cubby.

Sun Safety Procedures

Parents are encouraged to put a long-lasting sunscreen on their children before coming to school. Staff are not allowed to apply sunscreen to children.

Child Abuse

All staff are mandated reporters of child abuse if any of the Preschool suspect possible child abuse or neglect, the staff member will notify the Preschool Director, Senior Pastor, and/or Child Protective Services.

Permission to Transport

Every child must have a signed *Transportation Permission Form* signed by the parent or guardian on file. This form will be used for emergency transportation only. The Preschool does not transport students in a vehicle. Field trips are walking to our neighbors only. If field trips are offered parents are notified and only students with parent's signed permission will be able to attend.

Guidance

The Preschool staff model compassionate and supportive interaction with the children and adults. We operate on the premise that young children are not "bad" even when their behaviors are inappropriate.

Corporal punishment is not an acceptable method of dealing with young children's inappropriate behavior in Preschool. Children will not be hit, slapped, or spanked by anyone in any manner while attending Faith Lutheran Preschool. Not only is such action towards children extremely damaging to their self-esteem, but these actions also violate state licensing requirements.

The Preschool staff respects the right of every parent to discipline his or her own child in a personally determined way, except where child abuse or neglect is concerned. On the other hand, when volunteering in the Preschool, parents must follow the Preschool discipline guidelines with all children, including their own.

Adults in the Center will guide and encourage appropriate behavior by using these positive techniques:

1. Limit the use of the word "no" and other negatives. Rather than telling the children what **not** to do ("don't," "no", etc.), tell children what **to** do.
2. Use natural and/or logical consequences.
3. Ignore some types of inappropriate behavior. Misbehavior is often a child's inappropriate attempts to receive attention they believe is due them. Therefore, giving the child any attention, either negative or positive, at these times encourages further misbehavior.
4. Reinforce desirable behavior by praising and/or encouraging the child. When children realize that attention is given for appropriate behavior, they are encouraged to engage in such behavior.
5. Hold developmentally appropriate expectations for children.
6. Develop rules and limits with children. State these rules at the child's developmental level.
7. Always emphasize the desired appropriate behavior.
8. Allow children time to practice new rules and guidelines.

9. Consistently use the above techniques and those of the staff. Children are most likely to respond to attempts at guidance when all adults use similar techniques. For example, hitting is always attended to using the following techniques and statements, “Hitting hurts”, “It’s okay to be angry, but it is not okay to hurt others”, “Use your words to tell the other person what you want or need”.

It is the philosophy of Faith Lutheran Preschool to work together with parents to develop guidance techniques that are appropriate and effective with young children and with their individual child. Our goal is for parents to be able to facilitate the development of behaviors in their children that are appropriate to the child’s age and level of development. Parents are invited and urged to discuss their concerns about their child’s behavior with teachers during private parent conferences.

Pesticides

Faith Community regularly has pesticides approved by the State of Nevada Department of Agriculture applied around the campus by a licensed pest control operator. This service is scheduled for the first Saturday of each month unless the weather interferes. Then it will be rescheduled.

Chemical Air Fresheners

Faith Community does occasionally use chemical air fresheners in the classrooms or bathrooms.

Smoking

NO SMOKING is allowed by any person on the Preschool premises at any time indoors or outdoors.

Grievance Procedure

If a Parent/Guardian/school concern arises during your child’s educational experience here at Faith Lutheran Preschool at the lowest level of resolution possible (in accordance with Matthew 18:15-17) ¹⁵ “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Parent/Guardian should follow the following process:

- Teacher and Parent/Guardian address the concern, if not resolved.
- The Teacher, Parent/Guardian and the Director address the concern, if not resolved.
- The Teacher, Parent/Guardian, Director, and Director of School Ministries address the concern. At this level the result of the conference is final.

If at any time you have concerns that are not being addressed, you may call the Nevada Bureau of Child Care Services at (702) 765-0575.

Director (702)921-2727

Ministry Executive Director (702) 921-2700

Parents have the right to request and review any complaints the facility has received within the last 12 months of their child(ren’s) enrollment.



Gender Identity

FCLCS' policy, regarding civil liberties and Biblical standards addressing sexuality, is consistent with the Biblical Position of The Lutheran Church– Missouri Synod (*Synodical Resolution 11-03A (2019)*; *CTCR Statement on Gender Identity Sept 5, 2014*) which says that God created man in His own image, and He created them male and female (*Genesis 5:1-2*). Based on this, FCLCS defines males and females according to their biological sex at birth. We also believe that sin has brought brokenness and corruption to the created order (*Genesis 3*). This, at times, has caused disorder and confusion regarding gender identity and/or sexual attraction. God calls us to “love one another” (*John 13:34-35*) by grace and the love of God (*Romans 12:2*), who in love gave His life and rose from the dead. The power of His grace and resurrection can bring healing and help to those who struggle with brokenness so that they can live as restored members of His family as He created them to be (*Ephesians 3:20*).

Questions

We welcome suggestions and/or questions concerning your child or the program. Please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher and/or the director. However, do not do so in the presence of your child. We want the best possible program for your child.

Calendar

Our annual school calendar is available upon request, on our webpage and posted at the front desk. Please refer to our calendar for dates we are closed or for special events.

Two's Program

Regulations and Procedures

Health and Safety

- All children two years and older must go outside each day. Shade and water will be provided when necessary.
- Eating: Children two years of age and older will be served a morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack provided by their parents.
- All two-year-old students will sleep on mats and parents will provide a Rollee Pollee. Children will be provided with a minimum 30-minute rest time. Those who do not fall asleep will be provided with a quiet activity during rest time. Those who nap may do so until 2pm.

Diapering Procedures

All staff is required to follow the Southern Nevada Health Department and Childcare Licensing procedures for diapering to ensure the safety and health of the children and staff.

The procedures are also posted in the diapering area and available for parents to read.

Toilet Training

- Children will be encouraged in a positive manner to use the toilet facility.
- Your child will never be forced to remain on the toilet for a prolonged period of time.
- Children will be positively encouraged when toileting accidents occur.
- Children under 30 months of age will not be left unattended in the bathroom.
- The teacher will instruct and assist in washing hands after toileting.

Personal Items

Children's personal items will include, but not limited to lunch/snack box, Sippy cups/water bottles. These items will be labeled with the child's full name and stored separately and made inaccessible to children unless supervised by a teacher. Daily Reports on diapering will be noted on Procure and logged daily in the classroom. If children are attached to pacifiers at the time of enrollment, they will be encouraged to leave it in their cubby upon arrival. To support this please leave pacifiers at home.

Sanitation

Precautions against infectious disease include the following:

- Toys will be washed and sanitized daily, as needed.
- Floors will be cleaned and sanitized nightly.
- Carpets will be professionally cleaned and sanitized quarterly or more frequently as needed.

