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[www.mccd.edu](http://www.mccd.edu)

Hello Child Development Center Families,

We have been receiving many questions about the coronavirus and its impact on the Child Development Center (CDC). While there are still no confirmed cases of the coronavirus in Merced County, Merced College is following guidance from the Merced County Department of Public Health and taking precautionary measures to limit the spread of the virus. I am comforted by the measures (i.e. distribution of cleaning solutions campus-wide, increased levels of disinfecting and sanitizing of office spaces and classroom areas, etc.) the College District has taken to ensure the health and well-being of all of our children, families, students, and staff.

Along with these measures and your continued willingness to help us keep our Center well, we have been able to maintain a healthy environment for our children. Thank you for keeping sick children home, increasing hand-washing efforts and temperature monitoring for children, and your immediate response when children fall ill during the day. As we monitor the continued reporting on COVID-19, we plan to conduct business as usual with our regular operating hours; Monday-Thursday 7:30am-4:30pm and Friday 7:30am-2:00pm until further notice.

In the event that your child(ren) will not be in attendance, please remember to call in the absence each day. Per the California Department of Education, verifying your absence under any of the applicable Excused Absences (Child/Parent is ill, Family Emergency, Best Interest (limited to 10 days/year); refer to page 12 of your Family Handbook), will guarantee your 12 months of eligibility for childcare with the CDC.

Lastly, please make certain that you and your family have worked out a contingency plan for childcare in the event that the CDC will need to close.

If you have any questions or concerns, please stop by the CDC office or click on the following link:  
<http://www.mccd.edu/news/covid-19-update/index.html>.

Best,

Michelle Joseph, Director  
Merced College Child Development Center  
209-386-6633

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