

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update March 18, 2020 7:00 a.m.

Governor DeSantis held a press conference Tuesday evening. Shortly after that press conference, we had a call with Dr. Eric Hall, Chancellor for Innovation at the Department of Education, and Shan Goff, the Executive Director of the Office of Early Learning.

In short, support is coming.

Here's what we know as of right now:

- **VPK and School Readiness will be reimbursed regardless of attendance or school closure.**
- There is a plan to suspend School Readiness and VPK Assessments.
- Schools/Programs are free to make the individual decision to stay open or close.
- The decision tree to help review the considerations for school closure written by the Centers for Disease Control is posted on our social media.

For programs that choose to stay open and can continue to be a community resource, we encourage you to continue to take all steps necessary to ensure the highest level of cleanliness and sanitation is maintained. It is also asked that you follow the CDC recommendations and limit each classroom size to 10 individuals.

Please continue to contact your provider services specialist to inform us if:

- Your center/FCCH is closed – if so, please email the dates closed and reason for closure
- Your center/FCCH is open and has the capacity to serve additional children

As more details are shared, we will continue to update you.