



FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Enrollment Brochure 2022-2023



ENGAGE . INSPIRE . ACHIEVE

WHEN EDUCATING THE MINDS OF OUR YOUTH, WE
MUST NOT FORGET TO EDUCATE THEIR HEARTS. -
DALAI LAMA



A BIG DECISION

Since you are reading this, you are likely a parent faced with the important decision of finding a school for your child's education.

And the fact that you are considering First Lutheran means that not just any school will do.



There are good reasons to give some serious thought to choosing a school for your child.

Knowledge and skills introduced in the first years of school become the foundation for a young person's future learning and growth. Fundamental skills in reading, writing and math that are essential to future success in school, and life, are forged during the elementary and middle school years.

During this time, children are also gaining important capabilities such as independent thinking, effective time management and how to work with others.

A child's first experiences at school can shape his or her attitude toward learning and feelings of self-confidence, which in turn can affect a young person's ability to recognize and realize fully their special gifts.

Students spend a good portion of their young lives at school. In California, the average student is at school for nearly half of his or her waking hours each day for 175 days on average each year.

It is no wonder that a parent would be interested in finding a school where this valuable time of development and learning is well spent on challenging students to excel academically to the best of their abilities, while also offering the opportunities and guidance to realize their potential as confident, healthy and caring young people.

Since 1957, thousands of discerning parents and students have found that place at First Lutheran School.

Read on to find out why.

WHY FIRST LUTHERAN?

Why do parents, who like you are concerned with the development and education of their young children, choose First Lutheran for elementary education and preparation for high school? We asked the people who could best answer that question — our parents.



IT'S PERSONAL

What parents say ...

"The grade and class size is perfect ... not so large as to where our children could get lost in the crowd, but not too small where they would be too sheltered. FLS feels like family."

"First Lutheran offers an emotionally supportive environment, with excellent class size and academic instruction. The school is very open to parents and offers many personal as well as learning experiences in a friendly and spiritual environment."

Class sizes are limited at First Lutheran to foster an effective learning environment. Enrollment in the transitional kindergarten classroom is a maximum of 14 students, while each of the two classrooms per grade in kindergarten through eighth grade is capped at 24 to 25 students.

With a small number of children in class, teachers are able to get to know students and their parents and better meet each learner's needs. Parents say this personal attention is reflected in a general feeling of community throughout campus. Families are considered a part of the First Lutheran family and are encouraged to get involved by staying in touch with their child's teachers, volunteering at school and attending the many fellowship events on campus.

EXCELLENCE IS OUR WAY

What parents say ...

“First Lutheran provides an academically challenging environment without it being a stressful and overly competitive experience.”

“The primary grades build the fundamentals needed to be successful in later grades. My children were all well-prepared for the next grade, socially, emotionally and academically.”

Giving young people the knowledge, skills and encouragement to be successful, lifelong learners is a primary goal of First Lutheran's education program. Students at First Lutheran gain proficiency in core subjects such as math, reading, language arts and science through a strong academic curriculum. The curriculum is aligned to the California state standards for education, and often exceeds these standards. Curriculum, teaching strategies and outcomes are regularly reviewed, evaluated and updated to reflect new findings and methodologies to respond to student learning needs.

First Lutheran students consistently score above national averages in core subjects on standardized tests, and our students and families report that graduates are well-prepared for the academic and social demands in high school and beyond.

After an extensive review of all aspects of our program as related to student learning, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) granted First Lutheran its highest level of accreditation.





EVERY CHILD IS FIRST

What parents say ...

"I have found the teachers and administration to be professional, effective and caring, but I also appreciate that they have expected a lot from my children. Expect excellence, encourage excellence and the kids will deliver."

"First Lutheran offers a superior education, and the individual teachers are truly and deeply committed to the students. The teachers at FLS don't just see their role as a teacher as a "job". They are wonderful Christian teachers who are dedicated to being amazing examples to the kids, while teaching them everything they need to know for the future."

Were you to look at the resumes of First Lutheran's teachers, you would see that each faculty member is a highly qualified and credentialed educator selected for a proven competence in his or her subject field. What you wouldn't be able to discern on paper but what our parents know first hand to be true are the passion for teaching, dedication to Christian values and commitment to promoting each student's academic and personal growth which our teachers exhibit day in and day out.

In the classroom, teachers incorporate critical thinking, cooperative learning skills and differentiated learning strategies to reach children with individual learning styles and needs. Student mastery of lessons is regularly monitored in a number of ways, including through authentic in-class assessments and standardized testing.

Teachers are joined by administrators and other First Lutheran staff and parents in working as a community to create a positive learning experience and the best outcomes for every child.

CORE SUBJECTS ARE JUST THE START

What parents say ...

"I like that there are many opportunities to learn, not just academically, but in areas like arts, sports, religion and society."

Just as life is not limited to reading, writing and arithmetic, neither is the education program at First Lutheran. While working to reach their academic goals, students at First Lutheran also study the arts, health and fitness, technology, faith and other experiences to enrich their learning and lives.

Special interest classes in choral and instrumental music, art, physical education, computer lab and religion are included in the required curriculum, and these subjects are also frequently incorporated into lessons in the regular classroom. Upper-grade students gain knowledge and skills in trimester classes in public speaking, STEM, math projects and current events/geography.

Our young scholars are also encouraged to discover and pursue interests and talents of their choice in the many after-school classes, leadership groups, sports teams, performing groups and social events on campus.

In an environment where respect, creativity and striving to do your best are valued, young learners are free to find inspiration, to become actively engaged in their learning and to explore new experiences that can make for rich and fulfilling lives.



FAITH IS FOUNDATIONAL

What parents say ...

“Not only have my children become well-educated at First Lutheran, but their FLS experience — with its emphasis on faith and the teaching of its tenets, as well as my children’s interaction with faculty — has played an important role in them becoming good people.”



Parents who want their child to develop not only as a good student but also as a Christian and a good citizen choose First Lutheran because at the center of the education program is commitment to Christian beliefs and a mission of nurturing children’s souls, as well as their minds.

As a ministry of First Lutheran Church and School, we are closely bound to a Christian attitude and to supporting student faith development and expression through daily prayer, lessons in the Lutheran faith and weekly chapel.

Working to become a person of good character is a central theme in the First Lutheran School experience. Students learn, through education, guidance and practice, to become caring people who are responsible citizens of the world.

Our student body is diverse, and children of all races, nationalities, genders, family backgrounds and religions are welcome at First Lutheran.

Students are taught to respect these differences and to work in harmony to reach academic, spiritual and social goals.

IT ALL COMES FROM GRACE

Grace is the divine assistance given to us by God.

Grace is at the heart of the goals that we work to achieve every day at First Lutheran School.



At First Lutheran School, we are committed to the expectation that our students will become:

God-centered

assured of God's grace through Jesus Christ as they mature in their faith and form lasting relationships.

Respectful

showing integrity in their work and play.

Academically Prepared

with knowledge and critical thinking skills.

Clear Communicators

empowered with tools and strategies for effective communication.

Equipped for Success

with the skills and confidence to face new challenges and make wise choices.

These goals, known as our Schoolwide Learner Outcomes, (SLO's), provide focus for the people and programs at First Lutheran.

ACADEMICS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

At every grade level, the course of study is designed to promote each student's academic progress and spiritual growth, respect for others and integrity in character and the development of skills and confidence integral to success as students and responsible young people.



Transitional Kindergarten (TK)/ Kindergarten

First Lutheran's kindergarten curriculum emphasizes phonics, comprehension and writing skills. Children learn mathematical concepts through a variety of manipulative and "hands on" activities. A child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2022, for entrance into the one year kindergarten program.

For students who would benefit from a year in a smaller class environment, TK is a full day classroom which serves as a bridge between preschool and kindergarten where children can progress at their own pace academically while working on social skills required for school success. Students in the Transitional Kindergarten Program should turn five during the fall of 2022.

Primary School (Grades 1 to 4)

Students in first through fourth grades explore math, science and social studies with a "hands on" emphasis. Instruction in reading focuses on building strong fundamentals by emphasizing phonetic skills and a love for reading. Writing skills are developed and integrated into all subject areas.

The fourth graders learn to play musical instruments as part of the regular curriculum.

Intermediate School (Grades 5 & 6)

Instruction in grades 5 and 6 prepares students for a smooth transition to middle school. Learning in language arts is literature based, and hands on experiences are emphasized in science, math, technology and social studies. Students are one-to-one with technology devices to take advantage of the latest information and resources.

The curriculum is augmented with travel learning experiences. Fifth graders spend a learning-filled and fun week in the local mountains for outdoor environmental education, and the sixth grade classes spend an action-packed week exploring rocket science and technology at AstroCamp.

Middle School (Grades 7 & 8)

Our middle school offers a strong departmentalized academic program focused on preparation for high school and beyond.

The middle school block schedule format offers time for inquiry based and hands-on learning. Students are one-to-one with technology devices to take advantage of the latest information and resources.

Lessons learned in the classroom become more meaningful on special class trips. Seventh graders spend five days at Catalina Island Marine Institute studying marine biology. The eighth grade U.S. History curriculum is capped with a 10 day trip to the East Coast, including Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Our middle school students are well prepared for the academic and social demands at the secondary level. First Lutheran graduates go on to succeed in the classrooms at private and public high schools.



About Common Core

The curriculum at First Lutheran meets or exceeds California state standards for education. Teachers create lesson plans that incorporate Common Core methodologies, allowing for a smooth transition for graduates moving on to attend public high schools.

ENRICHMENT AT FIRST LUTHERAN

First Lutheran stands apart from most public schools and many private schools by offering an extensive enrichment program.

Courses in creative arts, computers, religion and physical education are part of the required curriculum, broadening student learning and experiences beyond core subjects.

Choral & Instrumental Music

Students in TK through grade 8 are introduced to the fundamentals of vocal music in weekly music classes.

Children have the opportunity to build self-confidence and performance skills in musical shows and presentations to their peers, their families and the church congregation.

In fourth grade, students are introduced to playing an instrument in lessons taught by professional music instructors.



Creative Arts

Art instruction is integrated throughout the regular classroom curriculum in all grades.

In addition, all First Lutheran students explore the world of art through Adventures in Art, a non-judgmental art education program.

Middle School Classes

Seventh and eighth graders put lessons learned to the test in the project based, trimester long classes Spanish, Art, Music, Drones and Digital Literacy.

Field Trips & Learning Excursions

The world becomes the classroom during off-campus field trips in all grades. In addition, fifth through eighth grade classes journey on extended trips to Catalina Island, the local mountains or the east coast, depending upon the grade.



Sports & Physical Education



First Lutheran students build physical fitness and self-confidence in a coordinated, age-appropriate physical education curriculum taught by a credentialed P.E. instructor.

Athletes in sixth through eighth grades may participate on First Lutheran basketball, volleyball and soccer teams in after-school contests with local private schools.

Technology & Computer Lab

Students in first through eighth grades receive weekly formal instruction in word processing, presentation and graphic design, desktop publishing, computer use, coding and Internet safety in a fully-equipped, modern technology lab.

Technology such as iPads and Chromebooks create dynamic, meaningful learning experiences and builds students' comfort with and understanding of technology.

Library & Research Skills

First Lutheran has an extensive on-campus library to support student learning. Students visit the library regularly with their classes to read or hear a story, check out books and find research for projects. The library is also open at specific times after school for student and parent use.

Religious Education

Instruction in Christian principles is an integral part of the First Lutheran curriculum. Children in all grade levels receive religion instruction in the classroom, attend chapel each week with their classes and participate in a designated Sunday worship service. Students are encouraged to ask questions and seek answers so that they can grow in understanding and confidence in their faith.

After School Learning Opportunities

While there are too many after-school options available on campus to list individually here, below are a few examples of opportunities offered after school at First Lutheran...

- > Performing groups, including the First Lutheran Symphony, Praise Band and youth choirs
- > Musical instrument lessons in guitar, piano, violin, drums and brass
- > Athletic teams
- > Spanish language
- > Special interest classes in Lego robotics, cooking, dance, chess and more
- > Faith-based youth groups



SUPPORT AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Busy families find support in many ways at First Lutheran. From extra help with homework to day care to a certified Early Education Center for younger siblings, we strive to serve our families in ways that promote healthy, safe and happy environments at school and at home.

Educational Assistance

Homework clinics, reading and math support programs and student success teams can provide help for students to work through academic and or social difficulties.

For students wanting more challenging work outside the classroom, the MATHCOUNTS club provides practice for young mathematicians and opportunities to test the mastery of math concepts against their peers from other schools.



Care for When School is Not in Session

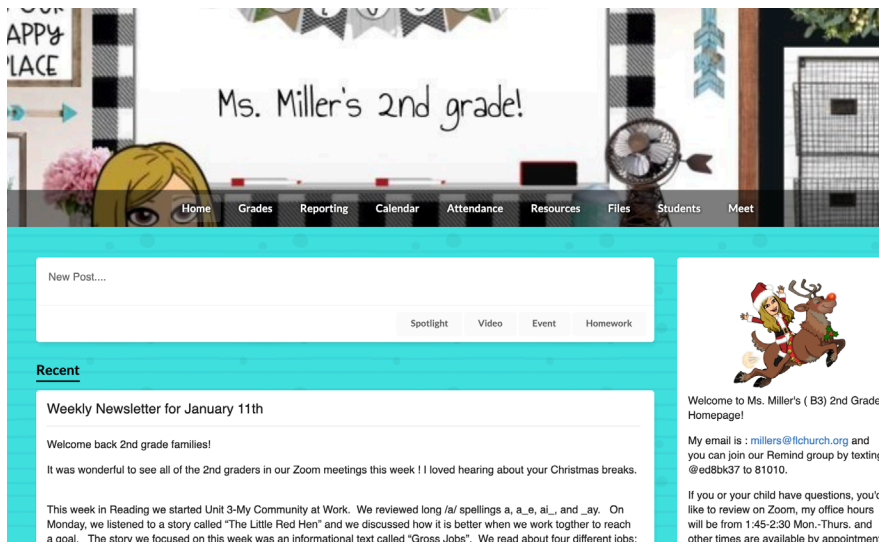
Supervised care for First Lutheran students before and after school and on many holidays can be a blessing for working parents. In the First Lutheran After School Hours (FLASH) program, caring and responsible counselors provide opportunities for supervised play and other activities. FLASH counselors are trained and screened child care providers.

FLASH is open from 7 to 8:10 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. (See page 16 for costs for the FLASH program.)

FL Summer, a 10 week program of supervised activities, is available to First Lutheran students during the summer months.

Connections

Parents stay connected with classroom and school news on Beehively and through a weekly school e-letter, a monthly newsletter and regular parent-teacher conferences. Much of what is on Beehively can also be translated into more languages by simply using the "translate" feature on the google web browser, a definite benefit for the parent who is more comfortable with reading in a language other than English.



Intermediate and middle school parents can monitor their student's assignments and grades online through Beehively and Google Classroom.

Parents and students are encouraged to contribute their voices to the continuing improvement at First Lutheran by participating in groups such as the Parent-Teacher Fellowship, the Principal's Advisory Committee and LEAD student council, and by sharing insights in school surveys. Many parents also volunteer time as Room Parents, field trip chaperones, docents for the Adventures in Art and Healthy Ever After classroom programs and helpers at the many events planned by the PTF throughout the year.

Family members can also keep up with First Lutheran School news by visiting our website at www.flfalcons.org and by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. It's hard not to know what's going on!!

A Campus Full of Possibilities

It can be surprising to some that First Lutheran, known for feeling like a close-knit community, has within the campus boundaries 22 classrooms, athletic and playground facilities, a library, a sanctuary, a Health Office, two kitchens, two multipurpose rooms, a dedicated music room, a technology lab, a preschool and a multimedia performance stage. Nestled in a residential area, the campus provides a quiet and comfortable place for students to learn, play and grow.

Infant and Preschool Care & Education

If there are infants or toddlers in the family, the First Lutheran Early Education Center offers a quality learning experience conveniently located on the First Lutheran campus. The EEC offers a loving and safe Christian environment for children from ages six weeks for four years old. The EEC's developmentally appropriate program is designed to help each child grow socially, physically, emotionally, cognitively and spiritually. Activities and experiences are planned each day involving exploration and experimentation through art, music and dramatic play.

For more information about the Early Education Center, call (310) 320-9923.

A Place for Families to Worship and Grow in Faith

One of the recurring comments we hear from parents is how much they appreciate the feeling of community and caring at First Lutheran. Through our relationship with First Lutheran Church, our students and their families have opportunities to grow in faith, celebrate friendships, give and receive support and offer their lives in caring service of others in God's name.

Programs for youth include vocal and bell choirs, after-school fellowship and learning groups, Vacation Bible School, youth retreats and preparation classes for Holy Communion and Confirmation.

There are also programs for adults at all ages and stages of life, including new member gatherings, learning and Bible study groups, a book club and vocal and bell choirs. First Lutheran also provides support through outreach groups and efforts to individuals in the church, school and local and global communities.

For more on First Lutheran Church, including how to become a member, call 310-320-9920, ext. 101, or visit online at www.flchurch.org.

AN INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE

For more than 60 years, First Lutheran has consistently provided South Bay families with real value in quality, private education. Consider the quality teaching staff, depth and diversity of program choices, proven student outcomes, Christian environment and emphasis on positive values, and you will find First Lutheran’s program an incomparable investment in your child’s future.

Administrative Fees (non- refundable)

Application fee	\$25
Screening fee	\$75 for TK/Kindergarten \$50 for Grades 1-8
Registration fee	\$350 (with new student acceptance; then annually with re-enrollment).

Annual Tuition

Transitional K	\$8790
Additional Child	\$7,910
K - Grade 6: 1st Child	\$8,100
Additional Child	\$7,300
Grades 7 & 8	\$8,200
Additional Child	\$7,380

***Consideration will be given for members of First Lutheran Church regarding tuition. For more information please contact the church office.**

FLASH Day Care

Annual Rates	Before & After School	Before Only 7 am to 8:10 am	After Only 3 pm to 6 pm
1st Child	\$3,260	\$2,010	\$2,750
Additl Child	\$3,100	\$1,900	\$2,600

Hourly Rates
\$10 per hour, billed through SMART account. Not valid for holiday sessions.

Tuition and day care charges can be paid in two ways:

- In full by August 1, 2022, and receive a 3% discount.
- In 10 monthly payments from August through May. (Monthly payments are due one month in advance of attendance.)

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS

Family Commitment Fee Requirement

Each family is also responsible for a commitment to help offset unforeseen campus maintenance costs. The requirement may be satisfied in three ways:

- By donating 10 hours of volunteer time to specific, approved projects on campus
- In a payment of \$150
- Combination of volunteer time and payment



WHAT NOW?

Now that you have learned why many South Bay parents make First Lutheran School their choice for their children's important education and development, there are a few more things to know about getting started.



Applications for new student enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis beginning March 5, 2022.

Acceptance to First Lutheran is based on a combination of considerations, including space availability, previous school references and results of an entrance screening.

All new students entering transitional kindergarten through grade 8 must undergo the initial screening as part of the application process. The evaluation is administered by appointment, and the results determine the student's current academic level. A child must be age five on or before September 1, 2022, to be eligible to enroll for kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year. A child who will turn 5 on or before December 1, 2022 should enroll in our Transitional Kindergarten class.

Enrollment for the current school year is ongoing as space is available. Should the number of available spaces in a grade level be filled, interested students will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available.

Ready to make all the benefits of going to school at First Lutheran available to your child? Call or visit our school office to get started.



First Lutheran School
ENGAGE. INSPIRE. ACHIEVE.

2900 West Carson Street, Torrance, CA 90503
310.320.9920

You can find out more about First Lutheran School on our website, www.fffalcons.org, and by following us on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). Check us out on Yelp, too!

ENROLLMENT CHECKLIST

☐ Take a tour or watch Discover FLS. Call the First Lutheran School Office to schedule a day and time for a tour. Visit us at Discover FLS, or the Community Open House Days held on campus each Spring.

☐ Complete an application. Submit an application online at www.flfalcons.org.

☐ The School Office will contact you to schedule an academic screening. If your child is coming from the EEC, you will be contacted to schedule the test; it will be done on a day when your child is already at the center.

There is a one-time fee for the screening (see page 16).

☐ Log-in to your Beehively account. Once your child is accepted and registration fees are paid (see page 16), you will be given information on how to log in. Look for instructions in August on how to register your child for the first day of school.

☐ Attend the New Family Luncheon on Thursday, September 1. This is a great way to meet First Lutheran teachers, administrators and other new families like you!

2022 - 2023 IMPORTANT DATES

Discover FLS Night	January 27, 2022
Enrollment opens to new students	March 5, 2022
FL Summer program begins	June 20, 2022
New Family Luncheon	September 1, 2022
First Day of School	September 7, 2022
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 21 - 25, 2022
Christmas & New Year Holiday	December 19 - January 2, 2023
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday	January 16, 2023
President's Day Holiday	February 17-20, 2023
Easter Week Holiday	April 7 -14, 2023
Memorial Day Holiday	May 29, 2023
Last Day of School	June 16, 2023



OUR MISSION

First Lutheran School exists to provide affordable, high-quality education and experiences so that our students, their families and our employees may ...

- Discover and nurture a love of learning.
- Deepen in faith and character.
- Develop their potential as confident, caring and capable people.

We strive to inspire the people around us through education, example and experiences to lead happy, healthy and meaningful lives



First Lutheran School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

We are a South Bay's BESTChristian School, 2021 and a South Bay Favorite Private School. (2014, 2015 and 2016 Daily Breeze Reader's Choice Awards) & FLASH Summer Camp. (2018)

Finding the right school is a big decision. Visit our campus to discover the many reasons why choosing First Lutheran is the smart decision.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to tour our campus, please call the School Office at (310) 320-9920, ext. 100.

First Lutheran School Church & School
2900 W. Carson Street Torrance, CA 90503
(310) 320-9920 www.flfalcons.org

